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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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24 JUNE 1986

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

OATUU SECRETARIAT CHARGES OAU MISHANDLING CONTROVERSY

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 20 May 86 p 8

[Article by Lloyd Evans]

[Text] The Secretariat of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) has strongly protested to the Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) on the discriminatory tendencies exhibited by the five-member committee elected to inquire and resolve the conflict that is raging on between the Secretariat and other member unions.

At the last OAU Commission of Labour Ministers which ended on April 9, this year at Addis Ababa, a committee of five representatives from Benin, Congo, Zambia, Egypt and Ethiopia was formed to arrange a meeting between the OATUU and the groups to resolve the conflict.

The Ghana Government was also to be invited to provide the documents on how the extraordinary conference was conducted in Accra in February this year.

Mr Denis Akumu, Secretary-General of the OATUU who was speaking to the "Graphic" in an interview yesterday on the outcome of the meeting said that neither OATUU nor the Ghana Government was invited to the meeting.

He said it was through the Ghana Ambassador in Ethiopia that the Secretariat and the Ghana Government got to know that the meeting was in progress.

At the OATUU congress held in Accra, a splinter group of the Organisation was formed with the sole aim of kicking out the incumbent Secretary-General Mr Denis Akumu.

This seemingly dissident group walked out of the congress after their motion of no confidence in the Secretary-General had been rejected.

Leading the group are the Trade Unions of Niger and Senegal who had incidentally met in Senegal a week prior to the Accra extraordinary congress.

Mr Akumu said the invitation to this meeting was extended to this splinter group and the OAU Labour Commission Chairman who is based in Senegal was invited as an observer.

He said although he received the message late from the ambassador he managed against all odds to be in the Ethiopian capital only to be told that the meeting had ended on the night of May 14.

Another meeting, according to the Secretary-General was fixed for the committee to hear OATUU and the Ghana Government's version but that meeting ended in disarray.

Asked whether some decisions were arrived at the first meeting, Mr Akumu said the reasonable ones among them suggested a re-convening of another meeting on June 16.

Others, he said, were of the view that no one should speak on behalf of African workers at the next ILO meeting to be held in Geneva.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1718

ANGOLA

CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CUBA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 20 Apr 86 p 1

[Text] A cultural and scientific cooperation agreement between Angola and Cuba was signed yesterday afternoon.

The agreement, which provides for technical assistance and personnel training under cooperative cultural programs, was signed by Angolan Secretary of State for Culture Boaventura Cardoso and Cuban Minister of Culture Armando Hart Davalos.

Mutual collaboration in the cultural area should be strengthened and broadened as a result of a joint effort which is becoming more and more extensive, according to the communique released at the conclusion of talks between the two delegations.

The cultural and scientific cooperation document also includes research and exchange of experience between the two countries.

The Angolan and Cuban delegations recognized the need to set up several working groups to monitor cultural cooperation activities closely.

They also condemned acts of aggression and destabilization perpetrated against the peaceful peoples of Southern Africa, Latin America and the Middle East by international imperialism.

Both countries reiterated their solidarity with peoples and countries struggling for freedom and independence.

At the signing ceremony, Secretary of State for Culture Boaventura Cardoso stated that Hart's visit to Angola "is a trip reflecting friendship and solidarity between our two peoples."

Cardoso also congratulated the Cuban government official on the 25th anniversary of the Bay of Pigs, a date which was commemorated Saturday, where a quarter of a century ago the Cuban people turned back a North American invasion of their country.

In reply, Armando Hart, a member of the Politburo of the Cuban Communist Party, said that his visit to Angola and this agreement are intended to develop cultural cooperation between the two countries in very specific ways.

Mr. Hart also condemned North American aggression in Libya and said that new "Bays of Pigs" against fascism and racism will have to take place wherever they arise, particularly in South Africa.

The Cuban minister of culture also mentioned the Angolan people's struggle and emphasized that their example is a "Bay of Pigs" in Africa.

"We wish to dedicate this agreement to the African peoples and others who are struggling for freedom and independence," said Mr. Hart.

The Cuban delegation, which has been in Angola since Thursday, left Luanda yesterday evening to return to Havana.

8844/9190

CSO: 3442/216

ANGOLA

BRIEFS

ANGONAVE OFFICE BOMB THREAT--Members of the gang in Pretoria's pay based in Portugal recently telephoned the Lisbon offices of the Angolan Ocean Freight Agency (ANGONAVE), threatening to blow up the office in the next day or two. The Angolan embassy in Lisbon informed Portuguese authorities so that they could take emergency steps to safeguard Angolan offices in Portugal, including the physical safety of Angolan officials. Also, according to an Angolan diplomatic source, African ambassadors in Lisbon should state their position within the next few days on the support extended by the United States to UNITA terrorists and their unrestricted travel rights in Portugal. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 20 Apr 86 p 1] 8844/9190

SWAPO ANNIVERSARY NOTED--Doukui de Castro, alternate member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and director of the Foreign Affairs Department of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, sent a message of congratulations to the Central Committee of SWAPO and the entire struggling Namibian people on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of SWAPO's founding, which was celebrated yesterday. In his message the alternate member of the MPLA-Labor Party stressed that this date has great historical importance because from that point forward the Namibian people began organizing the political instrument which has enabled them to carry on an armed struggle against the colonialist South African regime. Doukui de Castro added that the terrorist and genocidal policy which the racist government of Pretoria has unleashed against the Namibian people has forced SWAPO to mobilize the entire population, achieving remarkable victories which have been translated on the diplomatic level into every increasing support by the international community for their just struggle. On this occasion, the alternate member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee reiterated firm and unshakable support by the Angolan people and the MPLA-Labor Party for the Namibian people and their vanguard, SWAPO, vehemently condemning all imperialist intrigues distorting the colonial nature of the Namibian problem and delaying enforcement of UN Security Council Resolution 435/76. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 20 Apr 86 p 1] 8844/9190

FARMERS URGED TO INCREASE PRODUCTION--Lubango--The day before yesterday, Huila Provincial Commissar Lopo de Nascimento, a member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, visited Humpata, an important fruit-growing area

in the province. On this trip, which was undertaken to report on the main difficulties still facing agricultural production and welfare of area farmers, the Huila provincial commissar was accompanied by members of the party provincial executive body, provincial commissar for social and administrative affairs, Carlos Alberto, and defense, Daniel Sampaio, in addition to municipal commissars from Lubango and Humpata. After visiting several [illegible], the Huila party provincial committee coordinator met with traditional authorities in the first official meeting of the cities of Lubango and Humpata to be informed about socio-economic and political development. During the meeting the traditional authorities expressed concern over the lack of farm tools as well as poor provision of basic necessities to farmers. At the conclusion of the meeting, which was termed quite productive, Lopo do Nascimento promised to minimize many difficulties which the farmers were experiencing and asked them to work harder to increase production on all levels, the only sure guarantee of our people's welfare. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 25 Apr 86 p 3] 8844/9190

CSO: 3442/216

ETHIOPIA

REFUGEES RETURN TO TIGRAY PROVINCE

Nairobi THE DAILY NATION in English 2 May 86 p 23

[Article by John Tanner]

[Text]

Thousands of Ethiopians, moving by night in groups of 40, are making the 250-mile trek home to Tigray province from eastern Sudan, where they have been living since fleeing the 1985 famine. Now they want to return in time for the hoped-for May rains and planting season, writes JOHN TANNER.

A TRANSIT CAMP in ETHIOPIA, Thursday

The people of Tigray province in the north of poverty-stricken Ethiopia are going home.

Since January, 45,000 men, women and children have made the three-week, more than 400km trek from refugee camps in eastern Sudan back to the highlands of Tigray.

These same Tigrayans were among tens of thousands of refugees from famine who attracted the world's sympathy as they walked into neighbouring Sudan last year.

It is hard to grasp that these happy, healthy Ethiopians are the survivors of those emaciated figures who stumbled across the world's television screens in 1985.

Arduous

Damarin Haugust, a Christian priest, his wife Mame Gekidan and two of their children, Hadash, a girl of 10, and their son, Legesa, 13, constitute one of the families making the arduous journey back to their village in central Tigray.

I spoke to them at one of a string of transit camps which provide food and water on the journey.



The family fled their famine-stricken village last year, leaving three older children who were too sick to travel.

Many of their neighbours died on the way to Sudan, but Damarin's family made it to the Shagarab refugee camp near the small town of Khashm-el-Girba in eastern Sudan.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has provided trucks to ferry the now-recovered Tigrayans to another camp, Wad Kowli, close to the

Ethiopian border. There the refugees are organised into groups of 40 from the same district to travel home together.

Each family is provided with a plastic jerrycan for water, vitamin C tablets and sachets containing the simple ingredients for Oral Rehydration Therapy to cope with diarrhoea.

Every couple of days 1,000 to 2,000 refugees begin the long march home from Wad Kowli, travelling mostly at night when it is cool and there is least danger of air attack by MiG warplanes of the military government in Addis Ababa.

Tigrayan separatists have been fighting the Ethiopian Government since 1975 for autonomy for their province.

The transit camps have been organised by the Relief Society of Tigray (REST), the humanitarian arm of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which claims to control 85 per cent of Tigray.

A fleet of up to 200 trucks, donated to REST by international aid agencies such as Oxfam, ferry in food, water and seeds for the returnees, along some of the roughest tracks in the world.

But for the returning refugees there are no trucks. They walk between transit camps carrying all their possessions on their backs or using donkeys if they have one.

Most of the transit camps are in wadis (river valleys) with their own supply of water, but at one camp two huge tankers bring in water daily.

Most mornings, like some Hollywood version of a Biblical epic, hundreds of weary and dust-covered people trek into the camps for water, rest and food.

Once in the camp each family quickly found shade under simple shelters made from branches and grass, stood in line for water and cooked breakfast of *injera*, a pancake made from the local *teff* flour.

Each camp has a clinic which treats cases of malaria, pneumonia, dysentery and exhaustion. The atmosphere is like a holiday outing. Everyone is excited to be going home.

"I don't want to return to Sudan," said Damarin Haugust, a stooping figure with a lined face who looked much older than his 50 years.

But what if the May rains don't come?

"We will depend on REST," said his wife, a gaunt peasant woman of 40.

The contrast with the exodus in the other direction, when Damarin and thousands more were refugees from three successive years of drought, could not be more marked.

Many peasants chose to flee westward rather than seek food at the government-controlled relief camps in places like Makale, which featured so prominently on television screens around the world.

Those who did go to Sudan may have received the better bargain.

According to Survival International in London, which campaigns for the rights of such groups, tens of thousands of Tigrayans have been forcibly moved to the south and west of Ethiopia in a highly controversial resettlement programme.

At the end of 1985 Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Frontiers), a French medical aid agency, was expelled from

Ethiopia for publicly criticising the resettlement programme.

Aid agencies still working in Ethiopia say that many of those taken for resettlement went to government-controlled towns in search of food.

Survival International believes that most of the resettlement sites in lowland areas of Ethiopia are malaria-infested, and the settlers are not given enough food.

In a region where so many people are being displaced by famine, politics and war, the return of the Tigrayans is seen by many foreign observers as a welcome piece of good news.

The Sudanese Government, whose 21 million citizens play host to more than one million refugees from different parts of Africa, are delighted to see the Tigrayans leave Wad Kowli.

Whether Damarin Haugust and his family will be able to remain on his land in Tigray depends on whether they can get to their village in time and whether the rains fall in sufficient quantity on the parched ground this year.

If the rains fail, it could be another year of desperate food shortages. But for the moment the people of Tigray are happy to be going home.

ETHIOPIA

BRIEFS

MENGISTU OFFERS MILITARY TRAINING--Nairobi--Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam has offered to train and arm 10 000 combatants from South Africa and Namibia to help fight Pretoria's white, minority-ruled government, Ethiopia's government-owned radio reported yesterday. The radio, monitored in Nairobi, said Mr Mengistu made the offer during a meeting in his capital, Addis Ababa, with envoys from Botswana, Mozambique, Zaire and Zimbabwe and representatives of the African National Congress and the South West Africa Peoples Organisation. The meeting was held to discuss South Africa's military raids against Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia a week ago. Addis Ababa radio said Mengistu had sent a message to the ANC leader, Mr Oliver Tambo and to Mr Sam Nujoma of Swapo offering to arm and train their fighters.--Sapa-Associated Press. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 26 May 86 p 1] /13046

FRG ORGANIZATION OFFERS FAMINE AID--The West German-based Humanitarian Organization Menschen Fur Menschen (People To People) is to provide 40 million Birr (about 20 million dollars) to help thousands of famine-afflicted Ethiopians relocated to fertile agricultural lands under an agreement signed in Addis Ababa. The money is to be used to build clinics, and schools, provide drinking water supplies, fight pests and improve livestock for some 27,000 families relocated in Western Illubabor Province under the Government's massive but controversial resettlement programme. It will also finance soil conservation and land development projects in northern Wollo province. Austrian actor and Menschen Fur Menschen founder Karl-Heinz Bohm signed the agreement with Ethiopian deputy relief and rehabilitation commissioner Taye Gurmru on Monday. Menschen Fur Menschen was one of the first charities to assist the resettlement operation. [Text] [Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 1 May 86 p 11] /13046

EA SERVICE ADDS LUANDA ROUTE--Ethiopian Airlines, which flies to 22 destinations in Africa, will from June 3 this year, expand its services to Luanda, Angola, according to press release issued yesterday by the Airlines Area Office in Dar es Salaam. It said the additional destination to the Airlines, "already extensive Africa route network" was a move to realize the Airlines' "commitment to facilitate inter-African travel and commerce, thereby strengthening its role of serving the African continent." The flight to Angola will be from Addis Ababa every Tuesday with a Boeing 727, the release said. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 9 May 86 p 5] /13046

CSO: 3400/1762

GHANA

HARARE CONFERENCE MUST PRODUCE AFRICA DEFENSE MECHANISM

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 May 86 p 2

[Comment]

THE current Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity Defence Commission, Alhaji Mahama Iddrisu yesterday stated a disturbing but an obvious fact when he said that the OAU Defence Commission sessions have never recorded a good attendance.

Alhaji Iddrisu who is also Ghana's PNDC member in charge of Defence was addressing Ambassadors of other African countries accredited to Ghana and he actually appealed to them to impress it upon their respective governments to attend the next conference which is scheduled to be held in Harare, Zimbabwe about a week from today.

It so happens that because the whole continent of Africa is beset with stiff economic situations not much thought is given to the need for a strong concerted and unifying defence strategy for Africa. It is clear however that the moment Africa is able to defend herself and her resources the economic situation will also improve.

Not since Nkrumah mooted the idea for an African High Command in the 1960s (which proposal was considered by many countries on the continent as absurd and was therefore shelved into the backdrop) has there been any serious attempt to set up a truly continental defence force for the defence of the sovereignty and independence of the countries forming the OAU.

The imperialist designs against countries like Angola and Mozambique in their teething stages after independence did not tickle Africa, let alone move the continent into seeing the magnitude of the defence problem which confronts

us. The persisting apartheid raids on the Frontline States do not also seem to have brought home to us the spectre of gloom that the hostile and inhuman apartheid government of South Africa signifies for the black people of the continent.

Our brothers to the northern-most reaches of the continent are not being spared either. Libya and Ethiopia are targets of an imperialist superpower.

All over the continent evil designs are being hatched day and night to turn the continent into a boiling pot of confusion.

And yet we look on unconcerned in the posture of sitting ducks ready to be taken, hands down, by those who wish us every ill.

For how long can we allow this to go on? Who defends Africa?

The GRAPHIC is of the opinion that our self-induced defenceless situation which has allowed Libya to be bombed, Chad to be dismembered, Angola and Mozambique to be constantly pressured through destabilising acts (you add the rest), in a sense, is not the fault of our detractors.

As long as we remain cheaply and unguardedly vulnerable, the exploitative militarist powers will keep hounding us out of the knowledge that we cannot, as little as even hit back with our fists.

We must draw inspiration from Cuba and Nicaragua which countries have proved that to be able to live in peace demands the creation of a defence strategy and armour which cannot be easily taken apart.

In Harare, the GRAPHIC expects that Africa's defence issue will go beyond the usual shop-talking scenario and transform into a process that will eventually put in place a defence mechanism for the continent.

GHANA

TRADE WITH FRG REVIEWED; 28 PERCENT INCREASE

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 18 May 86 p 5

[Text]

THE volume of trade between Ghana and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) increased by approximately 28 per cent from 269 million Deutsche Marks (about €13.7 billion) in 1984 to 346 million Deutsche Marks (about €17.7 billion) in 1985.

According to a FRG report on German-Ghanaian co-operation, Ghana's imports from that country amounted to 190.5 million DM in 1985 as compared to 133 million DM in 1984. Exports totalled 155.4 million DM in 1985 against 133 million DM in 1984.

This ranks FRG among Ghana's most important trading partners in addition to it being one of the foremost bilateral economic co-operation partners.

Observers believe that the upsurge in trade between the two countries is a result of the Economic Recovery Programme launched two years ago by the PNDC.

The report noted that trade could be further increased if the treaty for encouragement and reciprocal protection of investments of 1967, which has already been ratified by FRG, was approved by Ghana.

According to the report such an agreement could attract German investors whose direct investments at present amount to about 10 million DM.

In the field of economic

co-operation, it said new commitments of German official aid (ODA) to Ghana in 1985 amounted to 38.77 million DM, which is a 50 per cent increase over that of 1984.

Out of this amount, 31.5 million DM is for financial co-operation and 7.27 million DM for technical co-operation.

It added that eight million DM was reprogrammed for projects of technical co-operation from earlier commitments, bringing the total of technical assistance to 15.27 million DM in the same year.

The projects to benefit from the allocations on financial co-operation include sector related programmes, assembled bridges programme, well drilling programme (maintenance and training) and the study and export fund.

The report said projects to benefit from the non-payable grants for technical co-operation include the Nyankpala Agricultural Research Station, University of Science and Technology Agricultural Engineering Department, Ghana-German Agricultural Team, Pong-Tamale Veterinary Laboratory and the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation.

It said about 40 scholarships are offered annually to Ghanaians for training and studies in FRG and Ghana and in "third" countries.

Besides technical and vocational scholarships that are provided in the

context of projects of German-Ghanaian technical co-operation, FRG annually grants Ghana a number of "project-free" scholarships.

A total of 17 such "project-free" scholarships for training of Ghanaians were made available to Ghanaians in 1985.

It said for the 1986 programme, a total of 20 scholarships are envisaged for Ghana.

The report said for small scale projects in the rural communities, the FRG Embassy in Ghana has the possibility to directly extend financial assistance up to 15,000 DM for any given project.

This programme is intended to give fast, unbureaucratic support to small-scale projects.

It said until now, more than 300,000 DM assistance has been given to communities, educational and local church institutions to erect, rehabilitate buildings, to construct public places of convenience and to install pumps and generators for water procurement.

Since Ghana-German co-operation began in 1960, approximately 1.1 billion DM has been granted by FRG within the framework of technical and financial co-operation to assist Ghana in the fields of agriculture, rural development, infrastructure and vocational training.

GNA

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GHANA

DEATH SENTENCES ISSUED FOR PLOT AGAINST GOVERNMENT**Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 16 May 86 p 1****[Article by Faustina Ashirifie]**

[Text] Nine out of the 15 persons who were tried for preparing to overthrow the government have been sentenced to death by firing squad by the Public Tribunal.

They are Godwin Mawuli Kofi Dra-Goka, Yaw Brefo Berko, Kyereme Djan, Samuel Boamah Panyin, Ahmed Denteh Braimah Kankani.

The others were W. O. II Samuel Charles Lartey Aforo, Private Charles Koomson, Eric Goka and Alanko. In addition to his death sentence, Yaw Brefo Berko is to serve seven years imprisonment for aiding a criminal to avoid lawful arrest.

They were convicted on two counts each of conspiracy to commit an offense and preparing to overthrow the government.

Evelyn Esi Goka and Esinam Adjei who were also tried for aiding a criminal to escape lawful custody were sentenced to five and three years imprisonment respectively.

The tribunal has given them seven days to appeal.

Frank Goka, Christian Goka and Papa Yaw Edusei, all of whom were tried in absentia were however acquitted and discharged on both counts for lack of evidence.

Before passing judgment, Mr George Agyekum, Chairman of the Public Tribunal reminded Ghanaians of their general responsibility to ensure the stability of the country.

Having listened to the series of mitigation plea from the counsel of the accused persons, he expressed concern over how people use millions of dollars and CFA to plan a coup and questioned what the objective of such people could be.

Mr Agyekum emphasised: "plots which put the lives of innocent people at risk and jeopardy have happened here over and over again and must be adequately punished if uncovered."

The tribunal, before passing judgement, had gone through the trial procedures and how a fair chance was given to both the prosecution and the accused to prove their claims.

It took note of how evidence from the accused were fraught with twisting events and contradictions, mentioning especially the fourth accused, Samuel Boamah whom he described as having "a vivid sense of criminal imagination."

Meanwhile, Mr James Benson, counsel for Mawuli Goka indicated to the tribunal his intention to appeal against the conviction of his client.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1718

GHANA

BRIEFS

GOLD TREATMENT PLANT--A 2.4-million pounds sterling (about 314.8 million cedis) contract for the design and supply of gold treatment plant for the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation (AGC) at Obuasi has been awarded to the British construction and engineering firm--Davy McKee. A London Press Service dispatch yesterday said the order was placed by AGC as part of a modernisation programme to raise gold production at the mine from 250,000 to 400,000 ounces per year. The new plant, due to be commissioned next year, would provide a more economic gold recovery system capable of handling 3,000 tonnes a day of leached ore to extract gold by absorption using activated carbon in place of the existing zinc-based system. The facility would also be able to treat up to 3,000 tonnes a day of dump tailings--extracting residual gold from solidified slurry waste. A spokesman for the constructing firm said the company would also assist in construction and commissioning work on site. [Text] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 13 May 86 p 1] /9274

'NOBISTOR' SHIP CASE--Mr Henrique Dela Guardia, a Special envoy of Argentina's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Dante Caputo has delivered to the government a number of documents relating to the arrest of the Panama registered ship "Nobistor". The ship was carrying large tonnes of arms for dissidents to destabilise the Ghana Government. Dr Obed Asamoah, Secretary for Foreign Affairs who received the documents yesterday told newsmen after the presentation that the government will study the documents so that investigations could be completed. He said to get the full picture of what was intended, it was essential to get Argentina's side of the story. The Secretary pointed out that the ship was carrying eight mercenaries and 10 other crew members and that those people were to be joined by other group of mercenaries before the attack on the country was to be effected. Dr Asamoah disclosed that the trial has begun in Brazil and that the Argentines are also carrying out their investigations as some of her nationals were involved in the plot to destabilise the revolution of Ghana and if their involvement is found to be true, they would be tried. [Excerpt] [By Lloyd Evans] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 14 May 86 p 1] /9274

LIBYA ISLAMIC SOCIETY CONTRIBUTION--The International Islamic (CALL) Society based in Libya is to support the construction of a £50-million school building complex at Tema by the Tema Muslim Community. The Kamaria Arabic and English School which is sited at Community seven will comprise a three-storey school block and offices, a mosque, a library, staff bungalows, canteen and recreational grounds. Mr Ali Abujaldin, Cultural Attache at the Libyan Embassy who is also a member of the Ghana branch of the society, pledged the society's

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assistance to the setting up of the school after he had joined Muslims in Tema in prayers for victims of the recent American air raids on Tripoli and Benghazi. He said conflicts generated by selfish people retard social and economic progress and condemned the American raids on Libya. Mr Abujaldin said it had always been the desire of the government and people of Libya to promote goodwill and understanding among men irrespective of race, creed or religion. He said the society would endeavour to provide building materials and cash for the early completion of the building. He urged Muslims to co-ordinate efforts towards the development of their various communities as their contribution to government's efforts to improve living conditions. Mr Ustaz Essah Ahmed, Head of the School, later took Mr Abujaldin round the building site. [Text] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 15 May 86 pp 4-5] /9274

PORTS REHABILITATION LOAN--Ghana is to utilise a 73.2 million dollars, about (£6.6 billion) loan to rehabilitate the ports of Tema and Takoradi. According to the Attorney-General and Secretary for Justice, Mr G. E. K. Aikins, the World Bank has already signed the loan agreement. The sticking point was a condition by the World Bank that the Ghana Cargo Handling Company (GCHC), the Takoradi Lighterage Company (TLC) and Ghana Ports Authority (GPA) should be merged. In an interview with the GNA, the Attorney-General said the relevant law for the merger is before the PNDC. According to Mr Aikins, if all goes well the loan disbursement will begin in July, this year. [Text] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 17 May 86 p 5] /9274

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY--Personnel changes have been made at the Civil Aviation Department. The appointments of some have been terminated for incompetence and administrative lapses which have resulted in substantial losses to the economy while others have been terminated for gross insubordination. Meanwhile, a law establishing the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority was signed yesterday by the Chairman of the PNDC. Under the law the new Authority shall among other things be responsible for: the licencing of air transport and the licencing of the provision of accomodation in aircraft; the provision of air navigation services; the operation of aerodromes and provisions of aeronautical assistance and information; the registration of aircraft and ensuring safety of air navigation and aircraft including air worthiness; regulating air transport services; securing sound development of the Civil air transport industry in Ghana. Advising the Government on matters concerning civil aviation. [Excerpts] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 15 May 86 pp 1, 4] /9274

MOBILIZATION PROGRAM PROGRESS--District Liaison Officers of the National Mobilisation Programme (NMP) in the Upper West Region have ended a two-day meeting at Tumu during which they assessed progress on the implementation of mobilisation programmes they planned for the Region last year. The meeting which was the ninth in a series discussed the implementation of agricultural programmes with emphasis on dry season gardening, construction work on self-help projects, small-scale industrial ventures, anti-bush fire campaigns and afforestation. About 62 mobilisation squads (Mobisquads) have been formed for the implementation of various mobilisation programmes. The liaison officers also drew up food production targets for community farms for the coming farming season and compared notes on the performance of the various district mobilisation committee secretariats. This enabled the liaison officers to identify

common constraints and lapses in the implementation of planned programmes and to readjust implementation strategies. A participant, Mr Alex Kala reminded the liaison officers at the end of the meeting that their task was to ensure the full exploitation of the Region's resource mobilisation capacity in providing meaningful support for the country's Economic Recovery Programme (ERP). Mr Kala has in the meantime, disclosed that cart pushers and "loading boys" who load goods onto trucks or offload them at lorry parks have been mobilised into special "Reserve Mobisquads" in the districts. He explained that the "reserve squads" would be called upon to assist communities which are hit by natural disasters such as wind and rain storms to repair damaged buildings and to help clean up communities where there are serious sanitation problems. [Text] [By George Sydney Abugri] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 19 May 86 p 5] ;9274

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROPOSAL--The Government has agreed in principle to the setting up of a National Health Insurance Scheme to cover all workers including farmers, fishermen and their dependents to ease the burden of payment of hospital fees. The scheme--an insurance against the risk of falling sick--will provide coverage for visits to private doctors, public health institutions and health centres on out-patient and in-patient basis. It will include services provided for routine laboratory services, special medical investigations; special x-ray examinations, dental services, major minor and general surgical services. Disclosing these at a press conference on behalf of the Secretary for Health in Accra yesterday, Dr J. D. Otoo, acting Director of Medical Services said provisions are being made under the scheme to cover retired workers. He said students over 18 years are to be covered under a special students policy for which purchase of premiums will be made through respective learning institutions. He hinted that the Ministry of Health in conjunction with the Department of Social Welfare are in the process of formulating proposals to cater for the unemployed, poor and pauper. On how policy holders will obtain services, Dr Otoo explained that it is envisaged that the employer in consultation with organised labour will have to take up the policy on behalf of the employees. The policy holder, he further stated will be provided with an identity card which will be presented at the point where medical services are to be secured and the doctor or hospital which provided the service bills the insurance company directly for payment. He said drugs and hospital supplies will be paid for under miscellaneous expenses during in-patient treatment and out-patient drugs covered depending on policy limitations and provisions under the policy. [Text] [By Janet Quartey] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 20 May 86 p 1] /9274

DECENTRALIZATION PROGRAM--The Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development has divided the country into three main zones for effective implementation and monitoring of the decentralisation programme. The Upper East, Upper West and Northern Regions constitute one zone, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo and Eastern Regions the second and Greater Accra, Volta, Central and Western Regions form the third zone. In addition to these three zones, sector committees have been formed to implement the decentralisation programme at regional levels. Mr Martin Amidu, Under Secretary for Local Government and Rural Development, currently touring the Northern and Upper Regions to evaluate the operations of the sector committees, disclosed this at a meeting with the staff of the

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Frafra District. He appealed to the sector committee members to approach their assignments with zeal and determination since the decentralisation programme is meant to encourage grassroot participation in decision-making. An administrative officer of the Frafra District Council, Mr P. F. Haruna, told the Under Secretary that the council's Interim Management Committee was performing creditably. Mr Haruna, however, admitted that the sector committee on the implementation of the decentralisation programme had been dormant for some time and appealed to members to respond positively to the call for active participation in the affairs of the district. [Text] [By Chris Alalbilla] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 May 86 p 1] /9274

FOOD IRRADIATION PROJECT--To reduce post-harvest losses in cocoa, maize and other crops in the country, the National Nuclear Research Institute (NNRI) of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC) is to go into full commercial food irradiation project. According to Dr A. K. Ahafia, the acting director, the institute had completed the research phase of the food irradiation project. Dr Ahafia was speaking during the opening ceremony of a four-week micro-computer training course organized by the GAEC and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), at Kwabenya near Accra. He said it was the ardent aspiration of the Interim Management Committee (IMC) of the commission to bring to fruition, the noble aspirations of the originators of GAEC. The acting director noted that the central role of the institute, empowered by the Atomic Commission Act of 1963 and PNDC Law 37, in the procurement and operation of a research reactor, and power reactors later. [Text] [By Douglas Akwasi Owusu] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 13 May 86 p 8] /9274

BORDER COOPERATION WITH TOGO--Ghana and Togo have agreed to co-operate closely in checking smuggling and currency trafficking in each other's country, a Foreign Ministry statement said in Accra yesterday. The statement said that at a meeting of the two Foreign Affairs and the countries' Ministers of Interior held in Lome, Togo, on Monday, to strengthen co-operation in that field. They agreed also on the need to resume the work of the joint Ghana, Togo Border Demarcation Commission in order to minimize border incidents which tended to mar relations between them. The next meeting of the commission will accordingly take place "as soon as possible" in Accra, the statement said. Both countries agreed also to resuscitate the Ghana-Togo Permanent Joint Commission for Co-operation which will meet once a year. Its sub-committees will meet "as often as necessary". [Text] [Accra THE GHANAIAAN TIMES in English 14 May 86 p 1] /9274

AIR LINK WITH BURKINA--Ghana and Burkina Faso have reached an agreement to re-establish air link between them. This follows three days of air bilateral talks between the two countries. In 1977, Ghana Airways operated air services to Ouagadougou for six months, but discontinued the service due to poor patronage. [Excerpts] [Accra THE GHANAIAAN TIMES in English 17 May 86 p 1] /9274

KORAN IN LOCAL LANGUAGES--Translation of the Holy Quran into four main Ghanaian languages will be published by the end of the year. The languages are Twi, Ga, Fante and Dagbon. This was announced by the Governor of the Ghana branch of the World Islamic Tijania Movement, Alhaji Yakubu Aggrey, when inaugurating this year's commentary of the Holy Quran in Accra to mark the beginning of the

30-day fasting of the Ramadan. Alhaji Yakubu-Aggrey said the project will be a historic landmark for the Muslims of the country. He said the project being financed by the Muslim World League and the Islamic Development Bank, will make the reading and the understanding of the Quran easier for non English reading Muslims who can read in vernacular. Alhaji Yakubu-Aggrey also hinted that similar translations into Kasem, Wala Conja, Nanumba, Dajari, Kusassi and Frafra will be made as part of (Dawa) Islamic propagation to be undertaken by the National Islamic Secretariat. [Excerpt] [Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 20 May 86 p 5] /9274

CSO: 3400/1718

MALAWI

FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH ZIMBABWE

Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English 10-16 May 86 p 1

[Text]

MALAWI and Zimbabwe yesterday signed a General Cooperation and Friendship Agreement which establishes a Joint Commission of cooperation and Friendship between the two countries.

The Agreement was signed at Sanjika Palace in Blantyre by His Excellency the Life President and Zimbabwe Prime Minister the Right Honourable Robert Mugabe, at the end of his four day official visit to this country.

A joint communique issued yesterday noted that the Prime Minister and His Excellency the Life President held very fruitful discussions covering a wide range of subjects of common interest to both countries.

"The two heads of Government noted with great satisfaction that the political, economic, social and cultural relations of their countries have steadily grown from strength to strength," the communique announced,

adding that the two leaders had further explored means of preserving and consolidating such relations.

The communique also stated that the Right Honourable Mugabe paid tribute to the Ngwazi for the heroic role he played in breaking up the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, thereby paving way for the eventual independence of the three countries which constituted the Federation. "He also thanked His Excellency the Life President for the support that the Zimbabwe African

can National Union received from Malawi during the Party's early stage," it stated.

On regional politics, the communique announced that the two leaders called for the immediate implementation of Resolution 435 of the United Nations Security Council which aims at achieving self-determination and independence for the Namibian people.

"They also called for the immediate abolition of apartheid which is a source of instability in the region," the communique said.

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CSO: 3400/1856

MALAWI

AFRICARE OPENS BLANTYRE OFFICE, IDENTIFIES AREAS REQUIRING AID

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 12 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Article by Vales Machila]

[Text]

AFTER 15 years of operational activities in many countries in Africa the tentacles of Africare have now finally reached Malawi; and there is every reason to believe that the organisation has come to stay.

Africare, a humble organisation whose activities originated somewhere in the basement of Niger's embassy in the United States, started as a relief agency with the aim of helping to avert mass famine which ravaged West Africa in the early '70s. The organisation has in its 15 years of operational activities seen its activities diversified and spread farther across the continent.

Africare maintains field offices in 12 countries, including Malawi. The Malawi offices are located in the Old Town Hall in Blantyre. The office was opened in December last year and its activities are manned by three officers: Messrs. C. Ross Croulet, agrobusiness technician; Henry W. Corbett, small business technician and Eldridge H.E. Gilbert Jr., resident representative.

Africare's financial intermediaries in Malawi

are the Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (Musco) and the Indefund. Messrs Croulet and Corbett are attached to the two organisations, respectively.

In an interview, last week, Mr. Gilbert Jr. told me that Africare aims at tangible results and at the moment feasibility studies are underway to find major areas of funding and technical and training assistance.

"We will have experts shortly who will be giving technical assistance to small and medium entrepreneurs and small farmers," he said, adding "we feel Malawi has great potential in agriculture, but our main areas of concentration will be sorghum and fruit production. This is our primary concern in Malawi."

Mr. Gilbert Jr. also disclosed that Africare is looking into the possibil-

ity of helping establish food processing factories in all the three regions to operate alongside the Admarc Canning Factory. "We feel there is room to engage in this field ... in fact we are looking for commodities that have import substitution potential, for example salt and cooking oil" he said.

In 1971, when Africare was founded, West Africa was experiencing one of the worst droughts in its history. People and animals were dying in large numbers. Crops could not grow and villagers were driven from their homes in the often futile search for water.

Relief agencies throughout the world were responding to the crisis by shipping food, medicine, equipment and personnel.

However, many African leaders foresaw that once the drought came to an end, they would have to develop long-term plans to strengthen the rural economy and improve health care. This would increase people's ability to withstand the effects of future natural disaster.

Realising that without proper training and technical know-how and assistance the situation would change little, some African and American leaders and development specialists conceived the idea of establishing Africare with the aim of promoting training and technical assistance to African countries and also to educate Americans, particularly black Americans, about the needs and potential of Africa.

A private and non-profit making organisation, and supported by black Americans, Africare works to improve the quality of life in rural Africa through the development of water resources, increased food production and delivery of health services.

The organisation's programmes are supported by many charitable organisations in the United States.

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CSO: 3400/1856

MALAWI

NATION'S ROAD SYSTEM; CONDITIONS, FUTURE PROJECTS EXAMINED

Blantyre THIS IS MALAWI in English 5 May 86 pp 19-21

[Article by Raphael Kamlomo]

[Text]

What would happen if all roads in the country one day closed. There would be chaos. Travellers, mail and other cargo would be stranded.

This shows the importance of roads in the daily life and development of any country. They facilitate easy movement of people and goods and this is why their improvement and maintenance are accorded a priority status in development programmes in many countries.

In Malawi, since independence, road development has occupied a large part of the country's overall development programme. As a result, many roads in the country's three regions have been opened and improved so that there is no longer transportation problem in many areas throughout the year as opposed to what was the case during the colonial administration.

Since Malawi's economic progress mainly depends on agriculture, there was pressing need at the time of independence for economic transport facilities not only for crop extraction to markets within the country, but also for the movement of the crops in neighbouring countries on their way to overseas markets.

"We cannot talk of increased agricultural production without improved means of communication. Therefore 25 per cent of the available funds have been allocated for this purpose and the greater part of this money will be devoted to improving the country's system of roads which are essential if the increasing volume of agricultural products is to reach the markets of the world cheaply", His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda pointed out on July 7, 1966, just a day after Malawi attained a republican status, when he performed the state opening of Parliament in Zomba.

The roads in Malawi are classified into main, secondary, districts, branch, estate, agricultural project and township roads. The main, secondary and district roads form nearly 88% of the total length of roads in the country.

The main road network is designed to serve as inter-regional primary grid for opening up domestic and international trade routes, at the time of independence in 1964 the main road network largely consisted of gravel and earth roads. In response to the development needs of the country, very high

priority was assigned to the bituminisation of the main roads mostly to what is termed class 1 bitumen standard.

The secondary roads provided inter and intra links between sub-activity centres and main roads. Much of these consists of earth roads. However, work for improving these to bitumen standard is also being speeded up and those so improved are done to what is termed class II bitumen standard.

The district road network primary service is to form or to make feeder routes. These are widely spread throughout the country and are maintained by district council with grants from the central government.

The main and secondary roads are the responsibility of the central government while support for the branch, estate, agricultural and township roads varies according to circumstances.

At the time Malawi became independent there were very few all weather roads. Bitumen roads totalling to only 431 kilometres were found mainly in the Southern Region.

After independence the government spared no effort and embarked on an intensified road construction and maintenance programme. The main arteries of the road network to be developed were to connect with the main urban centres, rail heads, lake ports, mountain and lake resorts and border posts at international crossing points to link with the road network of neighbouring countries.

These were also to serve the agricultural hinterland in the country.

Among the most immediate priorities in this regard were to replace with bridges the ferries then existing at Chiromo, Chikwawa, Liwonde, Mangochi and Chia.

The accident of the ferry at Liwonde on May 23, 1965 in which 70 people lost their lives emphasised the need to replace the ferries in the country.

The Liwonde barrage came into service as a road bridge in August 1965. The last ferry to be replaced was the Chiromo ferry in 1977 when the existing railway bridge was adapted to take both road and rail traffic.

The immediate priorities also included the construction of a good quality paved highway from Zomba to Lilongwe in conjunction with the relocation of the capital from Zomba to Lilongwe and lakeshore road from Mangochi to Karonga.

The latter was one of the Life President's Gwelo prison dreams. It was aimed at opening the fertile agricultural land that is found in the areas affected.

The first major road construction work for providing bitumen road surface started with the Zomba-Lilongwe road in 1968 and was completed in 1972. The 291 kilometre highway road was the first of a new generation of trunk roads built to geometric standards and pavement specifications higher than those previously applied in the country.

Its pavement width was 6.7 metres (22 feet). To date considerable lengths of the main roads have been completed to bitumen class I standards and many more projects are in various stages of planning and construction to such grade.

Major roads bituminised in the country so far include the Blantyre - Chikwawa - Bangula, Lilongwe - Kasungu - Jenda - Luwawa turn - off, Mzuzu - Ekwendeni - John Mzumara - Kacheche - Chiweta - Chilumba - Karonga, Mzuzu - Balaka - Liwonde - Monkey Bay - Salima - Senga Bay and Liwonde - Nsanama, Nkhotakota - Kasungu - Mchinj - Salima - Lilongwe and Blantyre - Muloza.

By December 31, 1984 total length of bitumen roads in the country was 2,125.1 kilometres as opposed to the figure of 431 at the time of independence. Meanwhile a number of other major road projects are underway in various parts of the country. Among these are Lirangwe-Mwanza-Mozambique Border; Luwawa turn-off - Champhoyo and Nsanama-Nselema.

There are about seventeen semi-similar projects in the pipeline. These include the Dwangwa - Nkhata Bay, Blantyre - Lirangwe - Macheimbeya - Balaka, Karonga - Chitipa, Champhoyo - Mbowe and Karonga - Songwe - Ibanda roads.

Significant progress has also been made in respect of earth roads. Most of these have either been built or improved to all weather standard.

In the north, in particular, an emergency earth road has been constructed from Karonga to Songwe and linked to the Tanzania road network at Ibanda. This has been done to enable some of Malawi's exports and imports to be routed through Dar-es-Salaam.

To boost the development and maintenance of district roads the government in 1979 launched a programme in conjunction with the International Development Agency called district road improvement and maintenance programme (drimp). Under the programme the Ministry of Works and Supplies provides light equipment, depot facilities and limited housing in districts to assist district councils in identifying improvement and maintenance priorities and training the councils' road personnel.

The programme is expected to cover all districts in the country.

In the first phase, a pilot scheme in Kasungu was successfully completed covering a total length of 425 kilometres of district roads. Under the second phase the programme was carried out in Lilongwe, Chikwawa, Karonga, Mangochi, Chitipa, Dedza, Dowa, Machinga, Thyolo and Ntcheu.

The third and last phase of the programme is currently covering the remaining districts. The programme was originally expected to end next year.

To supplement such efforts, the government in 1984 with UNDP support launched what is known as village access roads and bridges project. Under the project the government provided technicians, vehicles and materials and the work is carried out by villagers on self help basis.

The project started in Nkhata Bay and Mzimba and has now moved to Chitipa. It is intended to cover the whole Northern Region and the rest of the country.

So far, according to the controller of roads officials in Lilongwe 297 kilometres of roads, 62 road bridges and 104 foot bridges have been built in the Northern Region.

The project aims at expanding further road access to villagers who form an important point in the country's economic development.

Financial contributions towards the country's road development efforts have come from the United Kingdom, West Germany, United States of America, and international donor organisations like European Economic Community (EEC), U.N.D.P., International Development Agency (IDA) and African Development Bank.

Looking at the work so far done, Malawi's road network has really improved.

MOZAMBIQUE

MNR REBELS WOO U.S. NEWSMEN

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 9

[Article by Alan Dunn]

[Excerpt] WASHINGTON--The MNR rebel movement in Mozambique is offering to slip newsmen into "liberated zones" under its control.

"This is also the only convincing way we can show there is no South Africa bogeyman," said Mr Tom Curran of the MNR's newly opened office in Washington.

He said media representatives could be taken secretly into Mozambique and liberated zones in "free Mozambique" to see the situation at first hand.

Mr Curran, an American who was a missionary in Southern Africa for eight years, said an invitation had already been extended to the Washington Post after it carried a series of reports on Mozambique.

The newspaper had not yet responded, he said.

Mr Curran came to Washington after being asked to do so by the MNR's president, Mr Afonso Dhlakama, when they met in Mozambique.

He says the MNR controls 80 percent of the rural areas--all regions except the Beira corridor and the towns--and adds that the corridor would be under MNR control where it not for Zimbabwean soldiers guarding it.

Mr Curran also rejects the belief that South Africa is still supporting the rebels.

He says they are nursing and protecting civilians beaten by Zimbabwe forces in Mozambique. Crops are being grown again in the liberated zones, he adds, and food is not stolen. Life is returning to normal.

Mr Curran's opening pitch to legitimise the MNR in Washington and to elicit aid smack strongly of early efforts by Unita, the rebel movements in Angola.

Unita now has official white House favour and is presently receiving American military hardware in a covert operation.

MOZAMBIQUE

MNR REBELS SHOW OFF THEIR CAPITAL DEEP IN BUSH

Reporter Describes Clandestine Visit

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 18

[Article by Ricardo de Mello]

[Text] In August last year, the Mozambique Resistance Movement's headquarters at Casa Banana at Gorongosa, in central Mozambique, was overrun by Zimbabwean and Frelimo soldiers. Soon afterwards, Mozambique's President Samora Machel announced the action had broken the back of the Renamo "snake", but that its tail might still lash out for a while. By February, the "snake" had re-occupied Casa Banana and, instead of fading away, had increased its activities throughout Mozambique. Many observers believe the initiative in the Mozambican war now lies with Renamo and that Frelimo soldiers have been forced into an almost exclusively defensive position. It was against this background that Renamo President Afonso Dhlakama invited Ricardo de Mello, a special correspondent for the Argus Africa News Service, to make a clandestine visit to Casa Banana and report on what he saw. The following is his exclusive report:

IT'S six o'clock in the morning, deep in the Mozambican bush. A whistle is blown and a new day starts in Casa Banana, the Mozambique Resistance Movement's "capital" in Gorongosa.

Small groups of guerillas leave their huts in a hurry and line up in the centre of the base.

The commanders do a quick roll-call and the guerillas start running as part of their daily physical exercise.

The sun is already shining and the MNR guerillas run towards the outskirts of the base where for 90 minutes they go through military and physical training. After the training it is bath time.

The guerillas receive orders to disperse and go quickly to small rivers nearby to wash themselves.

It is one of the rare moments in which they are allowed time for themselves. Usually they are only allowed to relax during lunch and dinner and before going to sleep.

As I watch them, everyone seems to be in good spirits and some tell me jokes about the war.

One of President Afonso Dhlakama's men recalls that a Frelimo soldier they captured had wet his

pants. "He was wetting himself with fear," he says and everybody laughs loudly.

All of them offer to tell me stories about the war, like the one about a witchdoctor who offered to throw his bones to guarantee success — but whose spell failed. Again everybody laughs loudly.

It is a joke that you can understand only if you are here in Gorongosa.

In most cases these are men who have grown up knowing nothing but war.

But, when they are not fighting, they do enjoy themselves. They dance traditional dances like the marrabenta or get together to sing MNR fighting songs around a fire at night.

They have their alcoholic drink, sura, a spirit made of manioc.

And they do go to school — political classes arranged by the MNR in between their other tasks.

Sometimes they even organise a game of soccer.

Some of the guerillas, aged between 17 and 30, came from the cities but they rarely speak about their places of origin.

Mostly they like to talk about the war, about incidents and adventures — specially those in

which their leader Afonso Dhlakama or their first President Andre Matsangaissa, were involved.

They do talk a lot about the war and constantly assure one that if they had the support Frelimo has received over the years, they would have won long ago.

They tell me about the many times they had to break off an action and withdraw because they had run out of ammunition. However, they manage to laugh when a commander recalls that Frelimo soldiers also run out of ammunition — despite their resources and the fact that they fight for the Maputo government.

Inside the base, most of the guerillas go around unarmed.

But all of them have their own light machine-guns, the merits of each one being the subject of heated discussion. They argue about their weapons just as their contemporaries in other parts of the world argue about their favourite sports teams.

Radio receivers and transmitters are scattered around the base, usually at the highest points.

There are permanent contacts with other provincial bases and Frelimo communications are carefully monitored, as are radio stations such as the Voice of America, radio RSA, the BBC, Radio France International and Radio Mozambique.

While I was in Casa Banana there were scenes of jubilation when the news of a car bomb explosion in Maputo was broadcast.

"That's the work of Machel's own men who do not want him any more," Commander Albino, national political commissar told me with some satisfaction.

A calm man, who enjoys drawing, he has a high school education and says he would enjoy drawing propaganda posters for MNR but this is impossible at the base because of lack of materials.

Casa Banana is 45 km to the south of Paiva de Andrade village, and here are the "central hospital services".

Fifty kilometres to the east is base Bunga, which is used as a train-

ing centre for new recruits.

There are also a few head of cattle although, I was told, the herds were devastated by the Zimbabwean attacks last year.

Between these different bases there is a constant movement of people transporting goods on their heads.

In the base itself most of the work seems to involve keeping the place neat and clean.

The first meal takes place after the raising of the flag and consists of tea and some flour.

Dinner and lunch are sadza with meat. No salt is available.

Most of the guerillas eat in small groups under trees at lunch or near fires at night.

There are no civilians at the main base — they live in huts near the base and MNR leaders told me this is a rule followed throughout the country.

Eighteen kilometres to the south there is an agricultural centre

which supplies all the guerillas in the region with bananas, maize, onions and potatoes.

However, most of the civilians who live nearby are working directly for the base — transporting food and weapons and cooking.

In the agricultural zone guerillas and civilians work side by side.

"The soldiers work there because they have to produce something

and because we want them to set a good example," Commander Jeremias told me.

Frequently there are general meetings, a mixture of political indoctrination and traditional dances.

When there are visitors, such as when I was there, these meetings transform themselves into a special occasion.

Better meat, usually from buck, and large quantities of sura are served.

And then there are dances and songs until the early hours of the morning.

Women's Detachment

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 18

[Article by Ricardo de Mello]

[Text]

THEY call them the DFs, these buxom ladies who have thrown in their lot with the Mozambique Resistance Movement rebels in the bush.

The DFs (after Destacamento Feminino, the Portuguese for Women's Detachment) do almost everything short of fighting in support of their male colleagues in the fight against the Frelimo government in Maputo.

According to an MNR commander, the women do not participate directly in fighting but are given "military" tasks in the defence of the Casa Banana base and in support of men who are sent on military missions.

When this happens, they are charged with treating wounded guerrillas and supplying them with ammunition.

Most of the women come from the southern province of Inhambane.

"They came at the time we started attacking the areas of Massinganga and Morrumbene," one of the MNR commanders explained.

"They were at school in those areas and we attacked the schools. We captured them and later they joined us."

The women's detachment is headed by a woman who calls herself "Commander Victoria" and a number have the rank of chief or commander.

Some of these women commanders are charged with training new recruits.

The DFs, many of whom have men friends living with them, are obviously proud of their involvement with the MNR and of the "essential" work they perform in support of the guerrillas.

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CSO: 3400/1865

NAMIBIA

CABINET DENIES POLICY BANNING VISITS FROM RSA POLITICIANS

MB261538 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1510 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Windhoek, 26 May (SAPA)--The SWA/Namibian transitional cabinet have not formulated a general policy concerning visits to the territory by politicians from elsewhere, according to a statement issued on behalf of the cabinet in Windhoek today.

The statement was in response to a news report earlier quoting the minister of national education, Mr Andrew Xatjila, as saying that politicians from South Africa would not be allowed to address public meeting in SWA/Namibia.

According to the report planned meetings by a United Democratic Front office-bearer, the Rev Frank Chikane, had been cancelled at the instructions of the transitional government.

Today's cabinet statement said it occurred from time to time that people who intended visiting the territory came to the attention of the cabinet individually or collectively, but the cabinet had not laid down general policy concerning visits by politicians from outside the country.

Mr Matjila was "wrongly quoted" that the cabinet would not allow politicians from South Africa into SWA/Namibia.

"The cabinet treats, if necessary, every case on merit," the statement said.

A 14-day district order had expired last month and the cabinet had not given consideration to imposing a further prohibition on meetings, it added.

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CSO: 3400/1882

NAMIBIA

SWAPO'S NUJOMA CONDEMNS SOUTH AFRICAN AIR RAIDS

PM231505 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 21 May 86 p 10

[Per Kristian Haugen report: "The Aircraft Came From Namibia"]

[Text] "The South African aircraft which attacked a refugee camp in Zambia on Monday came from the Umpasha base in eastern Namibia and not from bases in South Africa's Transvaal. Our country is being used as a platform for South African aggression against the frontline states," SWAPO [South West Africa People's Organization] President Sam Nujoma said after talks with Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland yesterday. The SWAPO leader is visiting Norway as the last country on a Nordic tour. Before he leaves Oslo today Nujoma will hold talks with Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund, among others.

"This is exactly what we have been telling the world the whole time," was Nujoma's reaction to the attacks on what South Africa claims are terrorist bases of the banned African National Congress in Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Zambia.

Nujoma described South Africa's behavior as "barbaric, desperate, and arrogant" and as a gross violation of international law. He interpreted the actions as signs that President P. W. Botha's government is beginning to see the writing on the wall.

Asked about the danger that SWAPO camps could be attacked, he replied that such things have happened before and that SWAPO has been at war against the South African occupation for 20 years. "Some of the attacking aircraft will not return home," was all Nujoma was willing to say.

He claimed that in the last 3 weeks SWAPO was shot down two South African transport aircraft in northern Namibia. A helicopter is also supposed to have been shot down and South African military bases attacked. Nujoma could not say how many people died in the downed aircraft. As a sign that the pressure is also becoming noticeable to civilians, he mentioned that there is now unemployment for the first time among whites in Namibia.

The SWAPO leader warned that in the future too South [as published] Africa could be used as a point of departure for attacks on the frontline states.

Particularly important are the bases in the Caprivi Strip, a small tongue of land cutting in between Botswana and Zambia.

Nujoma said that he was most satisfied with the reception he has received in the Nordic capitals. On the subject of the U.S. condemnation of South Africa he said that the best test of the seriousness of the criticism would be if the United States refrains from using its veto against sanctions in the UN Security Council.

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CSO: 3400/1832

NAMIBIA

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES WEST'S POLICY OF 'APPEASEMENT' TOWARD RSA

EA212147 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 20 May 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The fascist Pretoria regime has once again shown its belligerent madness against free Africa on Monday by attacking Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The attack of the Pretoria Hitlerites on the three peaceful Frontline States, which resulted in a wanton destruction of property and loss of life once again proves that contrary to the appeasement policy pursued by the major imperialist countries, notably the United States of America and Britain, towards racist South Africa, the regime is adamant in preserving apartheid and in terrorizing peaceful citizens in the Frontline States.

The only plausible and fitting response to Pretoria's fascist arrogance by the international community is the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions. Appeasement is merely an encouragement to Pretoria as it was to Adolf Hitler. Mere condemnation of Pretoria's terrorist acts against the Frontline States will not suffice. The Frontline States need the tangible assistance of peace-loving humanity to strengthen their defenses in order to effectively rebuff Pretoria's act of state terrorism.

The cowardly attack against civilians who have fled South African terror in the country of their birth shows the inherent bestiality of the apartheid system. Apartheid, which daily butchers the Namibian and South African people in their own country, continues to stretch its violence into neighboring independent states due to the assistance, encouragement and protection it gets from the major imperialist countries. The latest barbarous attacks against Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe are yet another confirmation that apartheid is indeed a crime against humanity which must be fought tooth and nail by all justice-upholding humanity. The violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the three independent African countries should force the international community to act promptly and effectively against this (?invasion) of civilization and social progress.

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CSO: 3400/1882

NAMIBIA

NP SEEKS GROUP RIGHTS BASED ON FREE ASSOCIATION

MB250456 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1459 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Windhoek, 24 May (SAPA)--The SWA National Party [NP] has reaffirmed at an extraordinary congress today that any future constitutional dispensation for SWA/Namibia would have to accommodate group rights based on freedom of association.

The party leader, Mr Kosie Pretorius, told a news conference after the congress that the SWA NP rejected forced segregation as well as forced integration.

The implementation of any constitution would have to be done in consultation with the existing ethnic second-tier authorities instituted in terms of proclamation AG 8 (1980).

Mr Pretorius said it had been agreed among parties of the SWA/Namibian transitional government that existing constitutional rights would not be changed without consultation with those concerned.

Any final constitution decided upon by the SWA/Namibian central authority would have to be submitted for approval to a congress of the SWA NP which is the ruling party in the administration for whites.

Mr Pretorius emphasized that it was of cardinal importance to his party that an ethnic group would have "self-determination over its own affairs."

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CSO: 3400/1882

NAMIBIA

PARTIES ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS

Republican Party, DTA Chairman

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 16 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Article by Jean Sutherland]

[Text] One Namibia, one nation, one province and one government.

With these remarks Republican Party leader and DTA chairman Dirk Mudge introduced the alliance's draft proposals for a new constitutional dispensation at a RP meeting in Windhoek last night.

"This is what we stand for," he said to spontaneous applause from the close to 300 people, in a speech billed beforehand by RP member Hans-Erik Staby as "very important".

It was vintage Mudge as Namibia's bestknown white politician spelt out what appears to be the DTA's clearest move away from ethnicity.

WARNING

There was a plea to the white electorate to be realistic and a stern warning to those leaders, black and white, who were misleading the people.

Mr Mudge cautioned against the danger of those who on the one hand were saying white exclusivity could be guaranteed "in the knowledge that it is not possible"; and, those who were creating false expectations amongst the black electorate that the doors

to wealth would open "once we get rid of the colonialists".

There were also a few carefully aimed sideswipes at old political foes Owambo leader Peter Kalangula and Damara leader Justus Garoeb.

ONE GOVERNMENT

"I am in favour of only one government," the RP leader said, referring to "the stigma attached to any form of ethnically-based government and the rejection thereof by the majority of the population".

In practice this amounted to one central government for Namibia as a "unit" -- with decentralised administrative functions, "because the government in Windhoek cannot carry out everything in every corner of the country."

Central government would be composed of two chambers, a 60-member national assembly and a senate, consisting of three senators per district.

The national assembly would be elected on a one-man, one-vote basis in accordance with proportional representation for a five year term.

And, the senate would have

a six year term, with a minimum age requirement of 45 years.

All legislation would be approved by the senate and the national assembly.

"In the event that the senate disapproves of legislation... (it) can be adopted by a two-thirds majority."

There would be a President, elected by the senate, and a Prime Minister, elected by the national assembly.

The President would be head of the defence force "and can exercise emergency powers" where the democratic order of the state or constitution was threatened.

DISTRICT DIVISION

Seventeen districts are proposed using the "existing (pre-Odendaal Plan) district boundaries and existing centres".

Mr Mudge said that in this way homeland boundaries would fall away "and everyone becomes part of different districts".

District authorities would act on behalf of all inhabitants within their region.

A district governor, advised by a nine-member district

council, would in turn act in an advisory capacity to the central government.

The RP leader emphasized that the district authorities were not provincial councils or governments.

"We find it unnecessary that there should be provinces with many powers," he added.

It was envisaged that the district authorities would only come together periodically.

The central government would also establish local authorities (municipalities)

and would determine their powers and responsibilities.

The continued existence of tribal authorities is also provided for.

"Recognition and protection of Fundamental Human Rights will be effected by means of a Declaration of Human Rights, including power of enforcement by the High Court as well as the institution of the office of an ombudsman with wide powers of investigation and accountability as well as powers to act in some cases."

SWANU-SWAPO D Proposals

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 14 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Article by Joe Putz]

[Text]

TWO WIDELY divergent proposals yesterday saw the light of day in the opening rounds of the constitutional battle to be fought in the Tintenpalast over replacing AG 8.

The National Party submitted a 'Son of Kosie' proposal where the two-province division appears in a thinly disguised rerun of NP leader Kosie Pretorius' suggestion last year to effectively partition the country into northern and southern parts.

Characterised by a multi-layered attempt to guarantee ethnic and group rights in what boils down to a four-tiered government system, the NP proposal makes only symbolic concessions to the notion of a unitary state.

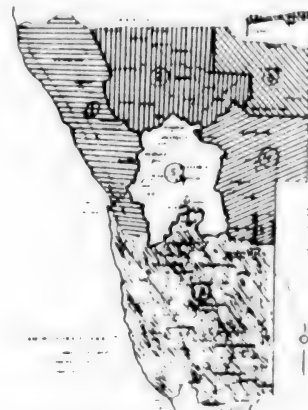
In sharp contrast the joint Swanu/Swapo D proposal emphasises the centralisation of state power to the effective exclusion of ethnic and tribal concerns.

But while it appears at first glance to actively suppress group concerns in a radical attempt to free government from the strangle-hold of ethnicity, a closer look reveals

enough shrewd concessions and escape hatches to defuse the controversy over group rights.

In what can be described as a masterpiece of 'realpolitik' the Swanu/Swapo D proposal excludes its six provincial authorities from any real power to challenge the proposed national government, but at the same time allows for the localisation at the municipal or local level of 'sensitive issues' like education and health.

But even those powers delegated by the central government to local or regional authorities remain vested in the central government.



Swanu/Swapo-D proposal.

In effect the provinces or municipalities will operate as agents or sub-contractors of the central government.

Both parties pay homage to Article 9 of the Bill of Fundamental Rights, guaranteeing the rights of sections of the community to freely practise and promote their language, religion and culture.

But while Swanu/Swapo D pay lip service to the concept and interpret it as a fundamental right guaranteed by the constitution, the National Party proposal pays lip service to the concept of a unitary state while interpreting group rights as an essential element of the structure of government.

"Group rights would be meaningless without representation in government," is the key quote on the topic by Minister of Agriculture Eben van Zijl.

A voluminous preamble to the NP document focuses on narrow legal argument defending group and individual rights against any conceivable threat. The result: a complex system of checks and balances which effectively paralyse central or national government.

The present system of second tiers under AG 8 reappear subtly under the term of community councils in what appears to be a third tier.

The division into north and south leaves nearly two-thirds

of the Nambian population stranded in the Owambo/Kavango/Caprivi region, — a ghetto for the have-nots without mines, harbours, railway lines or any manufacturing industry.

Meanwhile the south containing all the 'others' would be the proud owners of the lion's share of the infrastructure and wealth of the Territory.



NP proposal.

It is difficult to see how a shrewd politician like Eben van Zijl expects to sell such a constitution, but the proverbial snowball in hell would break out in a sweat at the mere idea of trying.

Land Reform Program

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 15 May 86 p 3

[Text]

THE JOINT Swanu-Swapo D proposal to the Committee on National Unity, announced this week suggests a programme of land reform to deal with the "unjust" situation in which "4 500 farmers belonging to a given racial group possess over 90% of the best farmland."

The two parties propose that control of agriculture should be centralised under one Agricultural Department, the Land Bank should reduce its deposits for beginner farmers, and affluent people in the communal areas with large numbers of livestock should be encouraged or obliged to buy farms.

The proposals aim to curb speculation and absentee farming without the land being used productively.

The state would repossess farms not being used productively but which are kept going by subsidies only, and preference in state controlled farm sales would be given to first

For Swanu/Swapo D by contrast "...the organisation of government shall consist of combining national unity and regional and local diversity into a system where regional and local governments — without undermining national unity — ... can manage their own affairs freely within the ... rules established by the central government ...

"Namibia's history has been plagued by tribalism," says Swapo D leader Andreas Shipanga.

Asked what the two parties' bottom line in the coming negotiations would be, Minister of Health Moses Katjuongua is adamant on the general principle that ethnicity may not rule.

On the same question Eben van Zijl, sits back, takes a puff of his cigarette and says blandly that he does not believe in bottom lines — "BUT," leaning forward, "I cannot find enough adjectives to emphasis the importance of education."

time and local farmers.

Foreigners buying land would be subject to a 30% levy on the purchasing price.

No-one would be able to buy land solely for hunting purposes and absentee landlords would have to prove that their farm is being used productively.

Individual or cooperative farming would be encouraged in the communal areas.

Another suggestion contained in the proposal is that the name 'Namibia' should be officially adopted.

Swanu and Swapo D say it is inevitable that the country will be named Namibia when it becomes independent.

"By using the name now, we the democrats, will give it a positive content and image," the two parties said.

NP Approach

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 15 May 86 p 3

[Article by Jean Sutherland]

[Text]

THE NP blueprint for a new Namibia was in line with the western proposals and set out to accommodate the protection of minority rights without losing sight of the national interest.

So said NP Cabinet Minister Eben van Zijl on Tuesday, when announcing the party's constitutional proposals.

Mr Van Zijl, flanked by Deputy-Minister Thinus Blaauw, gave an extensive explanation on how the SWA National Party had arrived at their frame of reference.

In a legally faultless presentation, he said the NP had looked at the mandate given to the Constitutional Council and to the Select Committee on National Unity.

As far as non-tribal, non-racial provincial delimitation was concerned, there had been no problem.

But, the mandate went further than calling for provinces by stating "organised in such a way that all **sections** of our population will be represented."

And it was here that they had tried to pin down exactly what

was meant by "sections".

As it was not spelt out, they had looked at it from every angle and eventually came to a conclusion, based on the de facto premise that no constitution should conflict with the Bill of Rights.

And, Article 9 of the bill identified three groups: "ethnic, language and religious".

The constitution had thus been drawn up taking into account what these groups were entitled to.

Legal opinion had also been sought to make 100% sure of this interpretation.

"And it boiled down to that if these groups were not represented, their rights would be meaningless," Mr Van Zijl said.

While there was no qualification of "right" in Article 9, the action words were that rights "must be able to be exercised."

Article 9 states:

"All ethnic, linguistic and religious groups and all persons belonging to such groups, shall have the right to **enjoy, practise, profess, maintain and promote** their cultures, languages, traditions and religions, in so far as these do not infringe upon the rights of others or the national interest."

The NP minister said another consideration in drawing up the proposals had been to try and eliminate those aspects of AG 8 which had provoked the most criticism.

These were weak administration, financial disparity and compulsory classification.

He concluded by giving a breakdown of how the NP proposals compared to those of the Western Five Contact Group and said that all their requirements had been met.

Rehoboth Free Democrats

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 15 May 86 p 3

[Text]

A DIVISION of the country into 10 regions including an enlarged 'Rehoboth Gebiet' has been proposed by the Rehoboth Free Democrats of Kaptein Hans Diergaardt as their alternative to Proclamation AG 8.

The Select Committee on National Unity meets today to discuss the proposals and those submitted by the other five government parties.

Asked to draft a geographical instead of an ethnic administrative system, the parties have come up with proposals ranging from the two-province (but complicated) National Party suggestion emphasising the rights of 'communities' to a 17 district division put forward by the DTA which walks a tightrope between strong central power and ethnic concessions.

A joint Swanu-Swapo D proposal provides for a six-province system with a strong central government and few

concessions to ethnicity.

The Rehoboth Free Democrat blueprint makes it clear that their basis for any negotiations is the Rehoboth Self Government Act of 1976.

It said the party had received a mandate stating that the aim of negotiations was to maintain the Rehoboth Gebiet or gain a better land division.

However, they were prepared to move away from a rigid ethnic division which in the past prejudiced other population groups.

Their proposal was an attempt to accommodate the Act in a new national framework.

They propose a three-tier system with the central government controlling all major

functions including education, agriculture and health.

The details of the provincial powers are not spelt out but the proposal says they should be community orientated (gemeenskapsgebonde).

The Rehoboth Self Government Act allocates 52 functions to the Rehoboth government, but "the Rehoboth Free Democrats are willing to negotiate over these functions in order to achieve a practical division of powers between the Central Government and the regional/provincial administration," the document says.

The provincial governments would comprise a Kaptein, a Kapteinsraad and a Volksraad.

The ten provinces proposed mean that Rehoboth would not lose its identity by being incorporated in a new area but would simply be enlarged.

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CSO: 3400/1720

NAMIBIA

NORTHERN RESIDENTS COMPLAIN OF POLICY, ARMY ACTIVITIES

Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English 16 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Article by Chris Shipanga]

[Text]

ANGRY RESIDENTS in and around Ombalantu in northern Namibia have demanded the immediate withdrawal of South African Police and Defence Force units operating in the area, claiming that those units were responsible for destroying lives and property.

At an emergency meeting of Ombalantu residents and tribal chiefs held on April 23, 1986, which was also attended by Brigadier Von Mollendorf of the Oshakati Police, Brigadier Hans Dreyer of Koevoet, and representatives from the SADF, residents strongly spoke out against what they called the 'wanton and deliberate destruction of their lives and property' by the South African Police and Defence Force units.

Residents cited various incidents in which they alleged that military vehicles were recklessly driven through their mahangu fields and homesteads and also that people were indiscriminately beaten up and even killed by members of these forces.

Many elderly residents were particularly annoyed by the 'systematic and cleverly planned' manner of waiting until the harvesting period before these units

would come in and destroy their many months of hard work.

The residents also bitterly accused South African authorities for not taking their complaints seriously and called for a speedy redress to all concerned and for the immediate withdrawal from the area of all South African Police and Defence Force members.

Approached for comment, Brigadier Von Mollendorf confirmed such incidents and said police were still investigating but emphasised that he was not in a position to give information to the press.

A police spokesman in Windhoek stressed that if charges were laid with the police, then obvious-

ly they would investigate the matter.

'We are not a band of criminals, and if a member of the police force was involved we shall bring the culprit before a court of law,' he said, and added that '... Swapo does the same, but nobody complains ...'.

A spokesman for the SADF in Windhoek denied any knowledge of the particular incidents referred to by the Ombalantu residents and added that he could not confirm whether the army was represented at the emergency meeting. The spokesman said however that the Defence Force had a well-established channel through which such complaints were laid, and that compensation was paid depending on the outcome of investigations.

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CSO: 3400/1720

NAMIBIA

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BERATED FOR IGNORING 'GRASSROOTS LEVEL'

Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English 16 May 86 p 11

[Article by Gwen Lister]

[Text]

WHILE THE INTERIM government is defining 'political parties'; praising the police for the 'overall attitude of the men and their officers'; berating the United Nations for their alleged 'partiality'; and so on; they are seemingly unaware of what is happening in Namibia at grassroots level.

Indeed, they could hardly be more out of touch and partial themselves, when they go on propagandistic missions to police bases in the north, and praise 'our police force', while horror stories of security forces strapping the corpses of insurgents to Casspirs for townspeople in the north to see, are ignored.

Is it possible that they should choose for themselves what may well turn out to be the 'kiss of death' as far as their political careers are concerned, when they pose with the chief of Koevoet and other high-ranking police officers?

Two of the three interim government ministers present on the trip to a police base in the north, are none other than Messrs Shipanga and Katjiuongua, both of whom appear to have memory lapses when it comes to their past political careers, and their vehement opposition to the 'occupiers' of Namibia.

THE 'BAFFLING' CONTRADICTIONS IN NAMIBIA

AND THEIR STANCE is indeed a baffling one. While the same MPC claims not to support the linkage of a Cuban withdrawal from Angola with a Namibia settlement, they are engaged in publicising the Unita rebel movement leader, Jonas Savimbi, to an alarming degree.

And while it is permissible to have Savimbi on local State-controlled television claiming the 'guerrilla struggle' is the only way to liberate Angola, it is an offence to express similar sentiments about Namibia.

And while the interim government defines 'a political party', several of those six parties represented in that government, can hardly lay claim to the status of 'political party' themselves.

Freedom of speech is also fine to the interim government, as long as it is Moses Katjiuongua who is being abusive and derogatory in the extreme about his political opponents, and not some government critic who may call for compulsory education, a minimum wage, and peace and justice for Namibia.

UNDER THE GUISE OF 'NAMIBIANISATION'

'OUR NATIONAL army' and 'our police force' boasts Katjiuongua and other interim government leaders, while at the same time claiming that

both have been virtually 'Namibianised', and it is no longer the case of an 'occupation' force.

There are few Namibians who actually believe these claims. In view of the largescale unemployment in Namibia, it is no surprise that recruits for the police and army are to be found. Neither is the situation being simplified. Quite the contrary in fact, and the interim government must be well aware of the deep divisions and rifts it is creating among the people of this country, in claiming 'our national army' and 'our police force', while the country is still in the hands of South Africa, and has not yet attained its independence.

What possible reason could they have for an 'own army' and 'own police' unless it is to prop up the flimsy and unrepresentative structure known as an interim government?

PROPAGANDA OF THEIR PREDECESSORS

IN FACT THE interim government is guilty of the same 'propaganda' as their predecessors and mentors, the South African Government, in their attempts to sidestep self-determination for the Namibian people.

And there is much activity behind the scenes of the Tintenpalast. Not to bring about a speedy implementation of Resolution 435, or an acceptable settlement for the people of Namibia, or 'national reconciliation' for that matter, but to entrench their own rule of Namibia.

Already the DTA has drawn up their plan for 'constituencies' in Namibia, and the creation of 16 separate areas. This Etango and Marinus Wiechers-inspired plan should be looked at carefully, and it is not difficult to establish that the DTA have worked out how to win an election (without Swapo participation of course).

And they are using 'population groups', in particular the one which supports the DTA the most, to achieve their aims.

So the scenario for the future is fairly simple: a 'constitution' will be drawn up (not by the so-called Constitutional Council, which is apparently for appearances only, but instead the Select Committee on National Unity headed by Mr Moses Katjuongua) and put to the vote perhaps. 'Yes' or 'no' will be the 'magnanimous' choice given to Namibians. There is little doubt that a 'yes' vote can be achieved, especially by a mass stayaway by political opposition, and then of course, elections for the so-called National Assembly and Senate. And after that ... well, perhaps a UDI ...

TAKING MATTERS OUT OF THE HANDS OF SOUTH AFRICA

AND ALL THE South African Government has to do is sit back, fold their arms, and wait, claiming that the 'representatives' of the people are deciding their own fate.

In so doing, they are able to extricate themselves somewhat from the firing line of international condemnation. At the same time, they are still able to dictate the recipe for Namibia's future: a little change here, to give the 'new deal' some credibility; the release of a few political prisoners there; and voila, the interim government will become a permanent one while the prospects for a lasting settlement in Namibia will become much harder to achieve.

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CSO: 3400/1720

NAMIBIA

FINANCE MINISTER INTRODUCES GOVERNMENT'S BUDGET

NB271707 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1651 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Windhoek, 27 May (SAPA)--A budget providing for total state expenditure in SWA/Namibia of R1,545.3 million was tabled in the territory's National Assembly today by the minister of finance in the transitional cabinet, Mr Dirk Mudge.

Revenue was expected to be not less than R1,435.6 million.

The deficit of R109.7 million would be financed from a surplus of R136.4 million from the previous financial year which would turn the deficit into a surplus of R26.7 million.

"Later this year, when it should be clearer whether the inflow of revenue comes up to expectation, further consideration should be given to the application of surplus funds," Mr Mudge said in a speech introducing the budget.

He indicated that among those considerations would be an increase in salaries for government officials, who received no general adjustment this year, the building of additional classrooms, the creation of more job opportunities and attending to a housing shortage.

The main features of this year's budget were that General Sales Tax [GST] in SWA/Namibia would remain at the present level of nine percent, company tax was unchanged at 44 percent and the 10 percent surcharge on individual income tax was being abolished.

From 1 March next year tax exemption on contributions towards retirement amenities would be raised.

From the same date fringe benefits of all employees, including government officials, would become taxable.

"This step is necessary because the private sector feels that parity in tax should be maintained and that competition for personnel between the private and the public sector should take place on an equal basis."

Mr Mudge said the cabinet had decided to abolish GST on advertisements in the media from 1 July this year.

The newspaper industry in the territory was struggling to compete with the SWA Broadcasting Corporation.

"The SWABC TV is furthermore subsidised by the government so that in the final analysis it means the government levies a tax on advertisements and uses the SWABC to give newspapers, who are having a rough time already, stiff competition in the advertisement market," he said.

Mr Mudge said non-loan revenue for the current financial year was expected to be R1,405.2 million which represented a 30 percent increase on last year's R1,078.9 million.

Revenue from SWA/Namibia's own resources was expected to be R938.2 million which was a 26 percent increase on the previous financial year's R743.8 million.

South Africa's direct contribution to the SWA/Namibian treasury rose by R131.9 million to R466.9 million.

Customs and excise payments rose from R250 million last year to R350 million this year.

Mr Mudge said it was the government's objective to put the territory on a sound financial footing with a limited loan programme.

"I am pleased to say that we plan to finance this year's budget without contracting any new loans on the capital markets," he said.

Capital expenditure was estimated at R200.3 million which was R19.5 million less than the last financial year.

Capital projects amounting to R113.7 million would be allotted to the private sector, but it was estimated that a further R33.2 million of capital projects undertaken by the government itself would flow into the private sector in the form of purchases of materials.

Mr Mudge said the real Gross Domestic Product in SWA/Namibia rose by 0.2 percent in 1985 compared to a decline of 3.3 percent and 0.6 percent respectively in 1984 and 1983.

Real private consumption expenditure decreased by 4.6 percent in 1985 compared to decreases of 2.4 percent and 3.7 percent in 1984 and 1983.

The surplus on the current account of the balance of payments amounted to R341 million for 1985 compared to R140 million in 1984.

"This vast improvement is mainly attributable to buoyant exports on the one hand and subdued exports on the other," Mr Mudge said.

"This combination led to a substantial trade surplus of R342 million in 1985 as opposed to a trade deficit of R72 million in 1984." Mr Mudge said the foundation had been laid for an improvement in the economy which he expected to materialize in the short term.

NAMIBIA

HEALTH MINISTER CALLS POLARIZATION 'MAIN THREAT'

MB261521 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1414 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Windhoek, 26 May (SAP)--The main threat to SWA/Namibian independence lay in polarization between the people of the territory, the minister of national health and welfare in the transitional government, Mr Moses Katjiuongua said in Windhoek today.

"The insertion of extraneous conditions by external powers is only a secondary complicating factor," he said at the opening of a week-long seminar on management and administration for medical superintendents.

Mr Katjiuongua said the SWA/Namibian transitional government was confident it would rule the territory until a viable and final settlement had been resolved.

It was doubtful whether such a solution would be found before 1 August, set as target date for implementation of a United Nations resolution on the territory's independence on condition that South Africa and Angola reached firm agreement on the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

Until an internationally acceptable settlement was reached in SWA/Namibia, the transitional government would assume greater responsibility "to carry out our duty to prepare this country for independence."

In that process it would strive for the complete abolition of racial discrimination.

At the same time, those SWA/Namibian political parties outside the transitional government should face up to it that they would have to enter into dialogue with the government parties at some stage.

"We are here to stay and will remain part of the final solution.

"After 20 years of armed struggle these people have not been able to control one square centimetre of Namibian soil (and it) should be enough proof that the prospect of them grabbing political power here is simply not around the corner," Mr Katjiuongua said in reference to SWAPO.

"The sooner we establish a broad national dialogue the better," he added.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1882

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

SOLDIERS POISONING INCIDENT--Police headquarters in Windhoek are still tight-lipped on the poisoning of an estimated 12 Koevoet members in northern Namibia. Most of the men, stationed in Oshakati, were transferred to 1 Military hospital in Pretoria earlier this week. The Police refused to reveal the identity of the men. Four are reported to be in a critical condition, and the rest 'serious'. It is also believed some of the men have gone blind as a result of the poisoning. According to one source those affected by the poison had been suffering from pustules around the mouth, hair falling out and paralysis of the lower limbs. It is believed it is a heavy metal poison taken in through inhalation, which was verified by another source who said there were reports that all the men had been involved in extinguishing a fire at a rubbish dump near their base last month and that possibly there had been some poisonous substance in the refuse. [Excerpts] [By John Liebenberg] [Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English 16 May 86 p 1] /9274

SWAPO OFFICIAL DETAINED--Omukuni Editor and Swapo Deputy Secretary of the Windhoek Branch Mr Erasmus Handuba was detained by police last Friday at Jan Smuts Airport and charged with bringing in 'banned stuff' and not declaring material with the customs. Mr Handuba was returning from a trip to Holland and Belgium where he attended two conferences on Namibia. The Dutch conference he attended was organised by the Netherlands Council of Churches after seven Dutch clergy and laity were refused visas to visit Namibia on a fact finding tour, while the Brussels conference was organised by the Belgian Committee against Neo-Colonialism and Apartheid. Mr Handuba said police confiscated a book titled 'Namibia in the 1980s,' and made a list of all publications he had, which they said was to be sent to the Publications Board for further investigation. He said police were abusive, accusing him of being the 'Tutu type' and then asked him whether he was a Swapo member to which he had replied, 'yes since my birth.' [Text] [Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English 16 May 86 p 5] /9274

CSO: 3400/1720

NIGERIA

KANO STATE GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES OPPOSITION TO PRIVATIZATION

Ikeja NEWSWATCH in English 12 May 86 pp 33-34

[Article by Lawson Omokhodion]

[Text]

Kano State is opposed to privatisation. Both the state military governor, Mohammed Daku, an army colonel, and his commissioner for finance, Abba Abdullahi, told the just concluded three-day seminar on *Restructuring the Nigerian Economy: The Role of Privatisation*, organised by the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC, in Kano so in clear terms.

Daku said privatisation is a non-starter. Abdullahi saw it as an instrument to further entrench the interest of the economic power brokers. He argued that federal assets belong to all, not to a few individuals and, therefore, ought not to be sold to the privileged class. He opted for commercialisation, because to privatise implies further marginalising the distant majority. The pro-privatisation arguments of better efficiency in resource utilisation, more effectiveness in achieving organisational objectives and greater happiness for the workers did not impress the Kano position.

At the end of the seminar, participants adopted resolutions that sounded more like an endorsement of continued state participation in enterprises. The seminar recommended the setting up of a national body on privatisation in the executive office of the president to work out the modalities for implementation.

Recognising the strategic role of SEC in the scheme, the seminar resolved that the commission should be allowed to play a balancing role in the allocation of shares of privatised parastatals. SEC, it was recommended, should give preferential allotment of shares to state governments. The seminar also asked state governments

to immediately set up investment companies, where they do not currently exist, and that these companies should also set up stock brokerage firms to avoid over-fragmentation of shares by allocating sizeable chunks to state governments. What escaped the seminar participants is that these investment companies are also parastatals which, at state levels, are also to be privatised.

In its analysis, the seminar proved myopic as it did not consider the entire spectrum of privatisation. It failed to see that the principle of privatisation concerns both federal and state governments. Mgbowaji Benson, secretary to the Rivers State Ministry of Finance Incorporated, told *NewsWatch* that he came to the seminar mainly to find out how the Rivers State government commercially-oriented parastatals would be best privatised. He said the seminar had been less than successful in finding a solution to his problems. But in terms of explaining the concepts and processes, the seminar, he said, was a masterpiece. Benson now knows that in Rivers State shares of privatised companies would need to be allocated to local government areas on an equitable basis, following from the seminar recommendations.

Reflecting on the question of proportional share distribution to governments, a participant said that parastatals are simply being moved from one level of government to another. This, he said, is not privatisation but "parastatal decentralisation."

The SEC seminar was heated because the subject matter drew as much support as it did opposition. The address of Chu

S.P. Okongwu, minister of finance, read on his behalf by the federal budget director, Omawale Kuye, presented the position of government. He noted that there were several contentious views on government decision to privatise. He agreed that these "views have to reconcile themselves before we can have meaningful privatisation."

Okongwu believes that the crucial issue is on the efficiency of the production system. He said: "We all know that higher productivity and production will lead to higher standard of living and welfare, higher level of employment and to a continuous re-investment of profits." The minister wants the government to embrace the ownership type that can effect the most efficient production system. Okongwu says it is shameful that on federal government investment of loan and equity worth about N23 billion, less than N400 million is realised annually, and that the companies concerned still receive fund from the treasury on an annual basis.

Omawale Kuye explained that government has decided to privatise only about four billion naira of its total investment. Kuye made efforts to allay the fears of ethnic domination in owning shares of privatised companies.

George Akamiokhor, executive director of SEC, told the 200 restless participants that the concern of President Ibrahim Babangida, expressed in his budget speech that "care will be taken to avoid the divested holdings from being concentrated in the hands of few individuals or few areas of the country," was being adequately addressed by the commission. Akamiokhor said that the feasible way of achieving the goal of wide-spread ownership is for all the affected companies, as much as possible, to be converted into public limited liability companies.

On conversion, he pointed out, "they become subject to both the valuation and allotment roles of the commission." Akamiokhor believes very strongly that SEC's policy of not allowing any one individual to own more than five percent of the shares of any particular company can

only be applied if the federal parastatals are not sold by private placement.

The Chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, in his press briefing last month, announced that "two dairy companies — the Nigerian Dairy Company and the Mandara Dairies — have been advertised for sale to private interest." Seminar participants maintain that the most effective way of concentrating the divested holdings in few hands is by putting them up for sale privately, as the government had just done.

Osamaro Ibie, retired federal permanent secretary, said that when a government is confronted with the task of restructuring its economy through privatisation, it meets with strong opposition from heavily entrenched interest groups, for whom state parastatals and businesses constitute a power base. Ibie believes that the public sector has reached its saturation point in the "over-reachment" of itself in the market place. Any further inroads into public ownership of business enterprises, he continued, can only give rise to a diminishing marginal return.

In Nigeria, Ibie emphasized, there are now clear indications that government cannot operate efficiently and effectively as a business manager. He said: "The time has, therefore, come for government to de-emphasise its participatory role in the business sector." Ibie explained that for privatisation to be meaningful, government must start by selling shares in its profit-making businesses since the "public sector is as reluctant to sell off profit-making companies as the private sector is unwilling to buy loss-making ventures."

Ernest Wilson III, professor of Public Studies, University of Michigan, told the seminar that the privatisation process is always long and windy. It requires a lot of caution as one false move could jeopardise the entire process, he said. As for Nigeria, Wilson said it has taken 25 years to build the huge federal government investment; it would be asking too much for all that huge investment to be unloaded in just two years.

Arthur Mbanefo, the retiring managing director of AW Consultants, spoke in

similar vein. Two years ago, AW Consultants carried out a capital restructuring exercise for six federal government parastatals. Mbanefo is not enthusiastic about privatisation. He says Nigeria does not have the resources to carry out a thorough privatisation and that the timing is poor and the scheme very expensive. Instead, says Mbanefo, "a little selective privatisation may be a good thing but certainly not a massive privatisation exercise at this time." He wants government to adopt a policy of commercialisation for now. He said: "The capitals of the various enterprises must be restructured to make them commercially viable and, thereafter, they must be given the tools to manage effectively."

The divergent views expressed at the seminar appear to have taken the punch out of its resolutions. Participants were not even agreed on the necessity of privatisation. Yet, there is no doubt that parastatals are a monumental failure. What to do? That is the dilemma facing President Babangida. A powerful anti-privatisation lobby has developed.

/13046

CSO: 3400/1860

NIGERIA

NATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE OPPOSES PARASTATAL PRIVATIZATION

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 20 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE President of the N.L.C., Alhaji Ali Chiroma, has said the only way to make parastatals work was to man them with qualified and committed people and not through privatisation.

Delivering an address last Friday in Ile-Ife, Oyo State, at the opening of the national delegates conference of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), Alhaji Ali said such qualified people should be given targets to meet, should be rewarded when they perform creditably and punished for any wrong doing.

He said efforts being made at diversifying the nation's economy would be wasted if its resources were still made to go into private pockets.

Alhaji Ali expressed regret that members of "the ruling class" had not lost any of their privileges in spite of the

economic depression.

"They earn their promotions when due, they have access to essential commodities at official prices and all their investments are making fantastic profits while the quality of life of the worker and common man is falling at an alarming rate," he said.

He urged the 44-member unions of the NLC, of which ASUU is one, to live up to their responsibilities by attending meetings and paying check-off dues of their members to the NLC.

As at March this year, he said, only four unions had fully paid up, 21 were in arrears while 19 were indebted to the congress by between 13 months and 84 months.

In his address at the occasion, the chairman of the University of Ife branch of ASUU, Prof. Omotoye Olorode, condemned the directive of the Ogun State Government compelling students to produce the tax receipts of parents who, he said, were jobless.

He called on member unions of NLC to co-operate with the congress, adding "unless the NLC wants to confirm the allegation that it was created to fetter the struggles of the working people, the time is ripe for serious political and economic action."

The conference, which attracted five delegates from each of the union's 24 branches, focussed discussion on the theme "Education, culture, and national liberation." (NAN).

/9274

CSO: 3400/1886

NIGERIA

COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO IMPLEMENT PARASTATAL PRIVATIZATION

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 23 May 86 pp 1, 19

[Text]

FEDERAL Government has set up a committee of experts to work out the implementation of the privatisation and commercialisation of public enterprises, Secretary to the Federal Government, Chief S. Olu Falae, said in Kaduna yesterday.

The committee would draw up guidelines and procedure for it as well as a time-table for implementation.

Mr. Falae said in an address read by the Permanent Secretary, Economic Department, Cabinet Office, Mr. Samuel I. Ochege, at the conference on modalities for successful privatisation of Nigerian public enterprises, that government was taking a keen note of expressed fears about privatisation

and would be guided by them at implementation.

Such fears, he said, were that the ownership of the privatized enterprises might again be concentrated in the hands of a few individuals with the financial wherewithal as experienced during indigenisation in 1972.

Chief Falae said government would also take steps to ensure a geo-political equity in the distribution of divested shareholdings.

He said for the purpose of privatisation exercise the parastatals and government-owned companies were being classified into five broad categories.

He said there would be those to be fully and partially privatised, those to be fully and partially commercializ-

ed and finally those to be left as public institution. Included in the last category are educational and cultural institutions.

He said the steel companies, the Nigerian Television Authority, river basin authorities and the research institutes would be those to be partially commercialized.

The Secretary to the Federal Government said all these steps became necessary because the government was not receiving a fair share on its equity investment and payment of outstanding debts with which it had supported these enterprises.

He said the Federal Government investment in public enterprises was over 23 billion Naira and the returns were less than 400 to 500 million Naira annually

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CSO: 3400/1886

NIGERIA

NEW 5 PERCENT SALES TAX ON MANUFACTURED GOODS ANNOUNCED

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 18 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Momodu Yakubu]

[Text]

YOU will have to pay more for goods manufactured in Nigeria with effect from next month.

With the exception of treated agricultural produce, all manufactured goods will attract 5 per cent sales tax, a decree just promulgated in Lagos.

Titled Decree No. 7 and published in a Federal Government gazette, it says that various services offered by hotels, motels, catering establishments, restaurants and other personal service establishments with effect from June 1, 1986, will attract 5 per cent tax.

The taxable goods include beer, wine, liquor, and spirits, soft drinks (including mineral water), cigarettes and tobacco, jewels and jewellery, perfumes and cosmetics, excluding toiletries.

Others include, electrical and electronic equipment, video recorders, stereo sets, radio and television sets, video cassettes and cameras.

Airconditioners, fans, deep freezers, carpets, rugs and bottled natural water are also to attract the sales tax.

According to the decree, a carton/crate of beer would attract a tax of 26k while a crate of soft drink (including mineral water) attracts 24k.

All other range of products and

services would attract 5 per cent sales tax.

The decree mandated the manufacturers, importers and suppliers of these taxable products to, within 30 days after the supply of these goods or services to accredited distributors, agents or consumers, collect from them the sales tax and pay same to the appropriate state authority on or before the 30th day of the month next following that in which tax is due.

The question is, "should the sales tax be on the prevailing market price or should the price of the products go up by the amount of tax imposed by the government, asked one company executive who refused to be named.

Alhaji H. Sotayo, a distributor for P.Z. Industries described the sales tax decree as unworkable and uncalled for at this time when the cost

of consumer goods in the market are gradually getting out of the reach of the common man.

Some company executives said that their goods are already over burdened by various charges from the government.

"We pay import duty on raw materials, 30 per cent consolidated import levy excise duty on manufactured goods, various port charges, we pay staff salaries, pay taxes on factory premises and all forms of overhead expenses and now sales taxes", declared a chief executive of a manufacturing company in Ikeja.

The executive who wants to remain anonymous said that his company would require a special accounting department to monitor the sales tax collection from customers.

"It is better that the government rescinded this decree in the interest of industrial growth of the nation", he said.

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CSO: 3400/1886

NIGERIA

EXTERNAL RESERVE LEVEL REMAINS STABLE

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 19 May 86 p 1

[Article by Roseline Umesì]

[Text]

THE level of external reserve in the last three months had remained stable despite the fall in the price of crude oil.

According to the latest publication of Assets and Liabilities of the Central Bank, the foreign reserve level for the month of February 1986 was N1.8 billion. This was made up of N19 million gold; N1.74 billion foreign government securities and balances with foreign banks; N3.8

million I.M.F. gold tranche; N5.2 million Special Drawing Rights (SDR).

According to the statistics, the level of foreign reserve has maintained a fair level since December 1985. For example the level of external reserve for the month of December 1985 was N1.6 billion. And in January 1986 it increased to N1.7 billion. The February's figure represented an increase of N100 million when compared with that of January 1986.

When compared with the level of corresponding month in 1985, the February 1986 figure represented an increase of N600 million despite the fact that the price of crude oil was stable at between \$28 to

\$30 (about N28 to N30) a barrel in 1985.

Although the level of foreign reserve has been fairly high since the beginning of the year, however many observers argued that this should not give comfort to the managers of the economy, because import licences have just been issued, while many have not been claimed because of various conditions which some state governments attached.

It is obvious that many owners of import licences have not yet met the local conditions such as advance payment of import duty or have not been able to open letters of credit, meant for that foreign exchange outflow has been minimal, and therefore must be responsible for the increase in foreign reserve.

In this situation whereby the country has not been importing a lot because of late issuance of import licences it then meant that the country should have accumulated more foreign reserve.

The fear is that when importers start utilizing the 1986 import licences that the level of foreign reserve will start falling.

Currency in circulation for the month of February 1986

remained high at N5.2 billion, according to Assets and Liabilities of CBN. This compares favourably with that of January at N5.2 billion in January 1986.

Several financial analysts continue to argue that unless the rate of inflation is checked through increased supply of consumer and industrial goods that the value of currency in circulation will remain high, because a consumer needs more money to buy the same quantity of goods and services which could have been bought with less money a few years ago.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1887

NIGERIA

FISCAL RESOURCE GAP, ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN OUTLINED

Kaduna SUNDAY NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 May 86 p 24

[Text]

NIGERIA needs 12.5 billion dollars (about \$12.5 billion) for its national recovery programme between 1986 and 1990, according to the African Priority Programme for Economic Recovery in Africa.

The programme also indicates that of the amount, the country had already mobilised 9.2 billion dollars (about \$9.2 billion) from domestic and external sources and was planning to mobilise additional 1.3 billion dollars (about \$1.3 billion) from external sources, the New York Correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

According to the programme released in New York last week, the country had a resource gap of two billion dollars (about \$2.0 billion) and is seeking international assistance to meet the gap.

The programme also estimated Nigeria's debt-servicing requirements between 1986 and 1990 at 13.7 billion dollars (about \$13.7 billion) more than three billion of the amount would be required to pay interest.

The recovery programme is contained in the document submitted by the OAU to the preparatory committee for the special session of the U.N.

General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa.

According to the document, Nigeria's Economic recovery programme focuses on small holder agriculture, supported by integrated rural development programmes, completion of on-going projects, rehabilitation and maintenance of existing assets, export promotion and supply of local raw materials for industries. (NAN)

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CSO: 3400/1889

NIGERIA

ORDERS FROM BULGARIAN TRADE FAIR, COMMERCIAL MISSION ADVOCATED

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 19 May 86 pp 1, 16

[Article by Josef Bel-Molokwu]

[Text]

NIGERIA will get export orders worth at least 10 million dollars over the next

months as a direct result of its participation in the Plovdiv International Fair for consumer goods in Bulgaria.

And, if such export drives are sustained, the nation's foreign earnings should make a big turn within a short time.

The official figures were given in Plovdiv by the head of the Nigerian exposition at the fair, Mr Ben Itegebe, who is also the head of the promotions division of the Nigerian Export Promotion Council.

He told the STAR that the fair, at which all Nigerian products were manufactured from an average of 80 per cent local materials, had exposed Nigeria to a wider world market

Contracts were won at the Plovdiv fair by a Nigerian company, NIMCO Nig. Ltd., for the supply of cocoa butter, cocoa cake, cocoa powder and coffee robusta to be sold to Yugoslavia, Sweden and Roumania, following inquiries from a Swedish consortium.

The Bulgarian government has also ordered 10,000 tonnes of cocoa beans a year, with the first order to be delivered in September.

From Cuba came enquiries for Nigerian toothpaste, soap and cosmetics, while another participating company, the Executive Alabi Thomas Furniture Services Ltd., was exploring the possibility of joint venture arrangements for wood and wood products for export.

The Nigerian Mining Corpo-

ration also entered discussions with foreign interests for limestone processing.

Mr Itegebe also said that Nigerian beer, many of whose brands were exhibited at the fair, "caused quite a sensation. Discussions went on for the purchase of our beer and these will be followed up".

He said the Plovdiv fair was chosen because Bulgaria was well-located, surrounded by several good markets.

The Export Promotion Council, he said usually conducted research on various countries' potentials.

He said the Nigerian participants were chosen purely on commercial considerations, based on indices on the council's register for assessment of exporters.

Mr Itegebe suggested that a commercial consulate of the Nigerian mission should be opened in Bulgaria to follow up the business generated as well as new orders.

NIGERIA

TRADE MINISTER ON TYING COUNTERTRADE TO PROJECTS

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 22 May 86 p 1

[Text]

IN as much as counter-trade is desirable and has its advantages, Nigeria would be cautious in operating the system. It is also wiser for it to be tied to specific projects rather than consumer commodities.

This is because it has been discovered that the system is fraught with hidden loopholes which could be used by international wheeler-dealers to dupe unwary nations.

Trade Minister Gado Nasko told the Daily Star in Plovdiv Bulgaria, that the present Nigerian leadership could not support a system whereby the country could not use money it realises the way it deems wise and another company is responsible for spending the money.

Often, he said, such companies submit bills of trade

that do not correspond with previous ones, a practice that was not acceptable.

"In the straight counter-trade business, it is clean. We must also tie it to specific projects. For instance, if we use counter-trade arrangements to build a petrochemical complex, I am sure our future generations will forgive us if any mistake occurs.

"But what would we leave as legacy for them if we fritter our resources away on consumer goods? Counter-trade should be for viable projects".

General Nasko, who seems to have a lot of concern for future Nigerian generations, also warned about the exploration of our mineral resources.

He said the need to earn foreign exchange should not push Nigeria to wasting our minerals, because consideration had to be taken of the future.

"We must not waste our resources because they belong to future generations," he said, implying that there was great need to diversify our foreign earning base.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1889

NIGERIA

PEUGOT PLANS LOCAL COMPONENT PRODUCTION PROJECTS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 14 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Article by Aliyu Modibbo]

[Text]

THE Managing Director of Peugeot Automobile of Nigeria Limited (PAN) Mr. Daniel Lange, has said the company would establish 15 projects in Kaduna.

He told the Governor of Kaduna State, Lt.-Colonel Abubakar Umar, at Government House on Monday evening that the projects worth 60 million Naira were for the production of its components.

He said the plan followed the company's desire to reduce the over-dependence on the Federal Government for foreign exchange to import CKD parts from France.

In the package are a press shop, a plant for the production of bumpers and another for electrical components manufacture.

Mr. Lange said that the three million Naira import licence approved for the

company for the importation of the completely knocked down parts this year was insufficient. He said it would not last for even one and a half days production.

Mr. Lange said the company had distributors throughout the country and would not hesitate to drop anyone of them found wanting.

He appealed for more land to enable the company carry out its development plans.

Governor Abubakar Umar said the problems of the company had been compounded by its total dependence on government for foreign exchange.

He urged the company to produce some of its components locally which could be exported in the future to earn foreign exchange.

He promised to assist the company to acquire land for its development.

/13046

CSO: 3400/1859

NIGERIA

GOVERNMENT FREEZES CAR PRICES, CHIDES ASSEMBLERS FOR SALE REFUSALS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 14 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Text]

MINISTER of Industries, Alhaji Bunu Sheriff Musa, has said the Federal Government would not allow any additional price increase for locally assembled vehicles for now.

Speaking at a meeting with representatives of the country's eight automobile assembly plants in Lagos yesterday, the minister said it was disturbing to note that in spite of government's views on the issue of price increase which had already been communicated to the assemblers, vehicles were still not being sold to the public.

Alhaji Bunu said he regarded their refusal to sell the vehicles as tantamount to disobedience of government's order.

The minister directed that the vehicles must be put up for sale immediately.

"When painful decisions are taken by the government", he said, "you have to implement them," adding that it would be bad for the ministry to abandon its responsibilities of formulating policies in order to sell vehicles.

The minister warned vehicle assembly plants in the country against any attempts to challenge or contravene government's decision on the new price list of vehicles assembled by them.

He said government was aware of a move by them to challenge its decision on the new price list and warned that such move would not be condoned and warned against hoarding and ordered them to start selling their products.

Alhaji Bunu said the Federal Government would not reverse its decision on the prices of vehicle manufactured in the country, adding that there would also be no room for price increases.

The minister later told newsmen that the government approved price list would soon be published.

Earlier, a senior official of the ministry had told the representatives that government had approved import licence to the tune of 76.3 million Naira for the eight vehicle assembly plants in the country for this year.

At the meeting were representatives of Volkswagen Nigeria, Peugeot Automobile of Nigeria (PAN), Anambra Motor Manufacturing Company (ANAMCO), Nigerian Truck Manufacturing Company (SCOA), Steyr Nigeria Limited, Leyland Nigeria Limited and Federated Motors Industries (FMI).

/13046

CSO: 3400/1859

NIGERIA

LUKMAN ANNOUNCES APRIL OIL SALES REVENUE

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 22 May 86 p 22

[Text]

NIGERIA realised about 548 million dollars (\$548,000,000), from the sale of her crude oil for the month of April, Petroleum Resources Minister, Alhaji Rihwanu Lukman has said.

Briefing newsmen at the Murtaja Mohammed Airport, Ikeja, on his way to Taiff, Saudi Arabia, the Minister said the figures were derived from selling the nation's OPEC quota of 1.3 million barrels a day at

\$14 (\$14) a barrel.

Alhaji Lukman also said he was optimistic that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and non-members would be able to agree on a

production level that would stimulate higher prices.

The minister went to Angola, South African last week to persuade the government to reduce production, sources close

to the minister said.

On his return, he had said that the trip was "quite successful".

Alhaji Lukman is expected to brief the OPEC Monitoring Committee on the outcome of his trip to Angola as well as perform the Lesser Hajj.

He is expected back in the country by the weekend.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1887

NIGERIA

PETROLEUM INDUSTRY WORKERS STRIKE DISRUPTS FUEL SUPPLY

Depot Activities Paralyzed

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 20 May 86 p 1

[Text]

FUEL supplies from two NNPC depots in Lagos and Ogun states were disrupted yesterday because of a strike by workers in the petroleum industry which began yesterday.

The strike was called by a faction of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG).

As a result, activities at oil depots at Ejigbo (Lagos State) and Mosinmi, (Ogun State), have been paralyzed.

The strike embraced

workers of more than 20 oil and allied companies. The national secretary of NUPENG, Mr. Frank Ovie Kokori, said the union had no option but to call a strike to enable the government to recognise it.

He said the union could no longer allow litigations to disrupt its traditional role of protecting workers' interest.

The NUPENG secretary said its members were being retrenched by employers; tanker drivers were being harassed on flimsy

excuses and that employers had been engaging workers on casual basis.

Other grievances of the union are, hold-up of check-off by employers and non-implementation of a retirement pension scheme for workers.

Asked if the NLC supported the strike, Congress president Ali Chiroma said: "It is not a case of whether Congress is in support or not. It is that a particular union feels that it has a democratic right to

choose its leaders".

Alhaji Chiroma said the leadership of NUPENG should be determined by the faction that has majority control of workers. "It is not a matter of court, it is purely industrial matter" he added.

When Daily Times contacted Unipetrol on telephone, the company's public relations manager, Mr. Kunle Awosanya, confirmed that the company's workers were on strike.

LPG Prices Skyrocket

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 19 May 86 p 1

[Article by Dapo Ajibola]

[Text]

THE price of cooking gas (Liquified Petroleum Gas) in the last two weeks has soared by about 150 per cent as shortage becomes acute.

Investigation by Business Times has revealed that a 12.5 kg cylinder of gas, where

available, now sells for N20 as against the N5 retail price approved by NNPC.

The immediate cause of the present shortage of the product is the drop in supply to the marketers from the refineries. According to one of the marketers, the Warri refinery though gradually back in

consumption, was put into production after two months of maintenance service early in the year but broke down in March and it is presently under repairs and therefore couldn't operate.

Production from Port Harcourt refinery is very small that it can barely satisfy the demand from Eastern part of the country.

Investigation further showed that the quantity of gas available in the market in the last two weeks had come from imported gas which came in the first week of this month.

The only way of reducing the present high price of gas is to get the Kaduna refinery produce to capacity.

Another related solution is that of improving the shortage of gas cylinders in the industry. The two local manufacturers can only produce fifty per cent of their installed capacities, that is, about 750,000 cylinders yearly, whereas the total demand of the industry outstrips their installed capacities put at 1.5 million.

Marketers expressed

concern over the current high price of gas noting that the objective of the Federal Government to encourage a greater usage of the LPG for domestic and industrial purposes would be defeated if steps are not taken to bring it down.

They contended that the retail price is too high because of the increase in distribution cost, due to the removal of subsidy on petroleum products particularly diesel oil which transporters of gas use.

The 30 per cent import levy has drastically increased the cost of cylinders, fittings, tankers and cookers thereby making the initial capital outlay beyond the reach of an average Nigerian.

Though the statistics of gas consumed in 1986 is still being compiled, it is expected to be about 70,000 metric tonnes. This figure would be an improvement on those of 1984 and 1985 put at 61,000 metric tonnes and 67,000 metric tonnes respectively.

production last week had in the previous two weeks been out of production.

The Kaduna refinery which is to have been supplying the bulk of gas for domestic

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CSO: 3400/1888

NIGERIA

ABUJA CONTROL TOWER EQUIPMENT INSTALLED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 17 May 86 p 1

[Article by Suleiman Dangana]

[Text]

CONTROL tower equipment with associated HF and VHF services have been installed at the Abuja Airport. Minister of Transport and Aviation, Brigadier Jeremiah Useni, has said

Briefing newsmen on the activities of the ministry in Lagos yesterday, Brigadier Useni said however, that the radar system, instrument landing system and HF communication facilities were yet to be commissioned. He said installation work was still continuing.

He said in pursuance of a policy of maintaining the

highest possible standard of safety in our air space, control zones and terminal control areas have been established in the 15 local airports.

Brigadier Useni said upper terminal area (UTA) has been established at Port Harcourt while the UTA at Kano has been restructured to make it more functional.

He said approach radar service was also available at Lagos, Kano, Port Harcourt, Enugu and Kaduna airports.

The minister said aeronautical information service had

established units at Port Harcourt, Maiduguri, Jos, Benin, Sokoto, Abuja, Ilorin, Enugu, Kaduna and Calabar adding that plans were under-way to extend the service to Ibadan, Yola and Zaria in the near future.

In the area of air traffic service, the minister said another air traffic services school had been established in Kano for the training of manpower from the northern parts of the country.

He said work was progressing well on the Minna Airport and that all things being equal, it would be commissioned by the end of the current financial year.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1889

NIGERIA

RAILWAY CORPORATION SLATED TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 17 May 86 pp 1, 11

[Text]

FIFTY locomotives, 287 coaches, 100 brake vans and 650 convertible wagons would be acquired for the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC).

Briefing newsmen on the activities of the ministry in Lagos, yesterday, Minister of Transport and Aviation, Brigadier Jeremiah Useni, said the corporation's proposal for joint venture arrangement with an overseas partner for the local manufacture of rolling stock and spare parts had reached an advanced stage.

He said the NRC had reopened discussion with Ajaokuta and Aladja steel rolling authorities towards the production of rail tracks, tools and other special structural sections in their plant improvement/extension programmes.

The NRC carried 8,364,035 passengers and earned 25,752,063 Naira between August 1985 and April 1986, Brigadier Useni said.

On the freight, the minister said the corporation carried 858,433 tonnes of goods and earned 24,024,893 Naira during

the same period.

The minister assured that the operating results were expected to improve significantly as the corporation received the maintenance spare parts in respect of which the Federal Government provided 10 million Naira.

Brigadier Useni said the NRC also moved 3,628 tonnes of bitumen from Kaduna Refinery to Port Harcourt and 25,000 tonnes of export coal from Enugu/Lafia also to Port Harcourt and earned 324,405 U.S. dollars in foreign exchange between August 1985 and April 1986.

The Government Coastal Agency, the minister said, was being reorganised to make it more commercially viable and self sustaining.

The operational activities of the agency, said the minister, had received a boost lately due to the Federal Government patronage.

He said the annual tonnage being handled throughout the agency's location was about 300,000 metric tonnes.

Brigadier Useni said as a result of economic crunch, cargo handling throughout Nigeria ports had been on the downward trend, from 22,611,229 metric tonnes in 1982 to 14,185,971 metric tonnes in 1985.

He said a further decline to 12,517,330 metric tonnes was projected for 1986, adding that the situation had been considered as not healthy for the financial needs of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA).

The minister said one of the priority projects embarked upon by the Nigerian Ports Authority since 1980 was phase one of the federal ocean terminal project located in Rivers State.

He said 64,306 million Naira had so far been committed in the project which was now suspended due to lack of fund and the increased scope of the project from the 129 million Naira to well over 200 million Naira being asked by the contractor.

The major objectives of the federal ocean terminal project were to give support to the Port Harcourt port which was already over stretched in the handling of conventional cargo traffic as well as the handling of the raw materials inputs required by the Ajaokuta Steel Mill.

He said it thus became clear that unless this port project which was suspended due to lack of fund was expeditiously executed the successful completion and operation of the Ajaokuta Steel mill, the new refinery, the petrol chemical and fertilizer industries might be impaired with devastating effects on the national economy.

During the period under review, the NPA collected port charges in foreign currency totalling 10.6 million dollars.

The minister also said the NPA would intensify efforts in attracting financial resources from reputable world institutions like the world bank.

NIGERIA

LACK OF STORAGE FORCES FARMERS TO DESTROY PRODUCE

Ikeja NEWSWATCH in English 19 May 86 p 22

[Article by Rolake Omonubi]

[Text]

Roseline Aigbokin, a trader at Oshodi market, bought ₦25 worth of tomatoes Monday last week to retail. She tried fruitlessly to preserve them by sprinkling water on them every minute. But sales were so poor that she was forced to take the left-over home in the evening. By noon, Tuesday, the tomatoes were rotten. The only choice left to her was to dump them in the garbage can.

At Ikeja, Ajegunle, Mushin, Iddo, Yaba markets, litter bins are always filled up to the brim with wastages in the evenings. Traders complain of their wares getting rotten. Many mango sellers last week told tales of woe. Their mangoes easily get over-ripe and rotten. Same goes for meat and fish sellers. They sell left-overs at give-away prices at the approach of dusk.

The problem is glaring: Lack of good preservation facilities. Nigeria seems to be used to the alternating seasons of want and waste. Last December, a family of five could spend ₦1 on yam for breakfast, a housewife could buy ingredients for soup for ₦1. There was surplus and there was waste. Now, the prices of foodstuffs have doubled. General Alani Akinrinade (retired), Minister of Agriculture, is now worried about the yearly wastes of food surplus, and along with many food expert, he has concluded that Nigeria's hopes lie in adequate storage facilities.

Storage facilities have always been the bane of Nigerian agriculture. According to the Federal Office of Statistics, FOS, a billion naira worth of food items is lost yearly because of poor preservation. Indeed, about 65 percent of yam produced yearly, 20 percent of grain and tuber crops, 20 percent of fish caught in our

water and 50 percent of the fruits and vegetables produced yearly are wasted. Yet, the food import bill in 1983/84 was estimated at ₦2.5 billion.

The situation developed from past governments' lack of consideration for the preservation aspect of agriculture. In 1978-79 fiscal year for instance, Olusegun Obasanjo's government generously gave agriculture 20 percent of the ₦12 billion budget, but no provision was made for storage. In 1980, Shehu Shagari's green revolution programme paid little attention to the problem of food preservation. Similarly, the 1981, 1982 and 1983 budgets made no provisions for storage, in spite of their big votes for agriculture. Even Muhammed Buhari's "Blue Print for Economic Revival" allocated ₦20 million for agriculture but did not talk about preservation.

But in what appeared to be a clean break with the past, President Ibrahim Babangida, in his 1986 budget broadcast, announced the creation of a Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructures, and said that a farm storage programme would be launched for the purpose of establishing a network of demonstration storage schemes for mass adaptation by farmers. Babangida also promised that the government would buy off all excess grains from farmers all over the country to avoid wastes. How effective these grandiose programmes would be, remains to be seen.

But the issue at stake seems to be deeper than this. The rural areas where the food products originate lack electricity, hence there are no cold storage facilities. They also lack good roads which makes transportation difficult. Sulu Abileko, a farmer, told *NewsWatch* that by the time

he brings his foodstuff from a village in Kano State to Lagos, huge chunks of it are rotten.

However, food scientists and biochemists suggest a nation-wide campaign on food storage through extension officers, television, radio, pamphlets, and newspapers. The campaign will be geared towards "educating farmers on how best to preserve their products."

At the Nigeria Stored Products Research Institute, *Newswatch* learnt that maize, sorghum and rice can be stored in improved ventilation cribs. The cribs are improved modifications of the traditional ones. Many farmers in Ondo, Kwara, Ogun, Oyo, Bendel, Kano, Rivers states have begun to use them. The crib is a square-shaped structure which can be made from wood, bamboo or steel. An official of the institute's extension services unit says "it should be placed across the direction of the wind" to make it more effective and dry grains very efficiently. Insecticide can also be sprayed on it.

For a large-scale preservation, Yemi Ogun, a food scientist in Lagos, recommends the use of stores and warehouses "but with plastered walls to prevent insects." Such facilities should, however, be located in areas that are not prone to flooding. Ogun says the containers for the food products need to be constantly fumigated to prevent insects and pest.

The Stored Products Research Institute has experimented with silos for grain storage. Silos are mass-storage structures

made from aluminium or concrete which are placed on an elevated concrete stands. There are various sizes; some can store 10 tons while some are constructed to store about 500 tons of grains.

Many experts, however, say the traditional silos are "not effective as a storage" because of the moisture concentration in them. For instance, cassava can be stored in moderate quantities in buckets or basins of sawdust, while on a large scale, the trench system can be used. A trench is dug and the cassava tubers are arranged inside it with alternating layers of palm leaves. The last layer, however, must be covered with palm leaves and moist soil.

In the case of yams, agricultural experts believe that they need not get rotten or sprout if well stored. The conventional yam barn is recommended by many agriculturists. Gari, a product of cassava, can also last for months if well dried and kept in a moisture-free container.

Preservation of fruits like oranges, grape, water melon, carrots, guava and mango is daunting. The Stored Product Research Institute, however, claims to have solved the problem by treating the fruits with fungicidal wax and chemicals which prolong the ripening processes.

Nevertheless, much can be achieved in food preservation if agro-industrial companies go into the canning of most of the farm products. In many countries, canning of food products, especially vegetables and fruits, has gone a long way in curtailing food wastage.

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CSO: 3400/1860

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

LIBERATION MOVEMENT AID--Federal Government has approved aid worth 10 million Naira for the liberation movements in southern Africa. Ministry of External Affairs statement said in Lagos that President Ibrahim Babangida has directed that supplies and aids must be despatched to the liberation movements and the frontline states within the next 48 hours. It said the President has also directed the Ministry of External Affairs, to proceed on a tour of the Frontline States and the camps of the liberation fighters immediately after the special session of the UN General Assembly coming up next week. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 22 May 86 pp 1, 3] /9274

CSO: 3400/1890

ZIMBABWE

POLISARIO OFFICIAL MEETS WITH PRIME MINISTER

LD241522 Algiers APS in English 1442 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Harare, 24 May (APS)--Ibrahim Hakim, Politburo member of the Polisario Front and SDAR minister of information, was on a visit in Zimbabwe where he was audienced by the Zimbabwean foreign affairs minister, a Saharan official communique announced on Thursday.

The Saharan minister met the front line countries foreign ministers, who are holding a conference in Harare, the communique pointed out.

Bilateral relations between SDAR and these countries, the international situation, notably the situation in northwest Africa and in southern Africa were examined.

Ibrahim Hakim was audienced during his visit by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to whom he delivered a message from President Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR president, secretary general of the Polisario Front. During this audience, the Saharan minister of information renewed the solidarity of the SDAR people and government with peoples and government of Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia victim of a coward and ignoble aggression of Pretoria's racist regime," the communique carried on. [as received]

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CSO: 3400/1883

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE DISCUSSES AIR FORCE 'ADVANCED BRIGADE'

NB241155 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has pledged the government's intention to turn the air force into a viable modern force with sophisticated capabilities. Comrade Mugabe was speaking at the Thornhill Airbase in Gweru today when he presented wings to 25 officers.

Six of the officers received their training in Zimbabwe after undergoing 120 hours of basic flying, while the rest undertook 230 hours of flying in the People's Republic of China, completing basic and advanced training. Comrade Mugabe said the 17 officers who trained in China will form the nucleus of the advanced brigade which will be introduced in the air force of Zimbabwe. He said the officers who were trained locally show the government's determination to achieve self-reliance in the production of expert manpower.

Appealing to the officers not to let the people of Zimbabwe down, the prime minister urged the officers to perform their duties efficiently with loyalty and dedication.

/9274
CSO: 3400/1883

24 June 1986

ZIMBABWE

MUZENDA CALLS FOR MORE VIGILANCE AFTER RAIDS

MB260505 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1707 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Harare, 25 May (SAPA)--The recent South African raid on Zimbabwe must never happen again, and Zimbabweans should be more vigilant and cooperate with security forces against saboteurs and political malcontents, ZANU's (PF) vice president, Mr Simon Muzenda, said today.

ZIANA reports Mr Muzenda made the remarks while addressing thousands of party supporters gathered to commemorate the 23rd anniversary of the founding of the organisation of African unity.

He called on Zimbabweans to flush out the enemies of the state and avoid a recurrence of the recent South African bombings against African National Congress targets.

"The recent South African raids should serve as a lesson and the people must be vigilant and cooperate with law-enforcement agents to avoid a recurrence."

Mr Muzenda said it was because of African unity that countries like Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola and Botswana were liberated.

He called on Zimbabweans to be united against all forces who wanted to see Africa divided.

"Africa Day is a symbol of African unity--United we will succeed," he said, adding that the OAU would not rest until SWA/Namibia, South Africa and the entire continent was free.

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CSO: 3400/1883

ZIMBABWE

INFORMATION MINISTER OPENS PANA CONFERENCE

Urges Increased Activities

ME291419 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, today officially opened in Harare the fifth ordinary session of the intergovernmental council of the PAN AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY, PANA. Comrade Shamuyarira, who is the chairman of the council, disclosed that MNR bandits in Mozambique have been allowed to open an office in Washington. He added that the United States is giving encouragement to racist South Africa by openly supporting the bandits.

Comrade Shamuyarira said a large sum of money has been voted for the UNITA bandits in Angola. In South Africa, he said, the information aggression against the Frontline States has been stepped up. The minister said the American Government is spending \$1.5 thousand million this year on transmitter development aimed at increasing its worldwide propaganda.

The minister called on PANA to increase its activities in southern Africa where the struggle for independence is being intensified in South Africa and Namibia.

Further Report of Speech

AB300824 Dakar PANA in English 1320 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Harare, 29 May (PANA)--Zimbabwe's minister of information, posts and telecommunications, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, today urged OAU member-states to "strengthen our capacity to confront an onslaught from the superpowers" in the field of information.

Dr Shamuyarira was speaking in Harare at the opening of the fifth ordinary session of the intergovernmental council of the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA). The Zimbabwean minister is also the current chairman of the council.

Dr Shamuyarira warned that "propaganda by both East and West will be stepped up in Africa, but propaganda of the United States variety has already increased remarkably in the region."

He pointed to current U.S. plans to spend 1.5 billion dollars on boosting transmission of American propaganda services, notably the radio station "Voice of America."

He regretted that the Reagan administration "has somewhat given respectability on state terrorism" through its air raids against Libya. It was the task of African mass media "to inform our people correctly about such events, and to identify correctly the aggressor," he said.

In the crisis in southern Africa, he continued, the line was now "very clearly drawn" between those fighting for liberation, and those fighting to maintain the status quo.

"The publicity for the status quo is supported by the United States internationally, and by South Africa regionally," he [said].

Dr Shamuyarira attacked the U.S. Government for its "open support for banditry" in southern Africa, citing the warm welcome given in Washington to Jonas Savimbi, leader of the South African-sponsored Angolan counter-revolutionary organization UNITA, on his visit to the United States in January.

"Now we are told that the MNR bandit organization in Mozambique has been allowed to open an office in the United States," he added.

The peoples of southern Africa need PANA, he said, for accurate coverage of the liberation struggles in South Africa and Namibia, and of the Frontline States' battle against South African destabilization.

PANA, said the minister, was fulfilling one of the main objectives of the New International Information and Communications Order (NIICO)- namely, the "de-linking" of African mass media from news agencies based in the industrialized world. "We are reducing our dependence and increasing our capacity to handle our own news," he stressed.

PANA was now, three years after it started operations, "a going concern," said Dr Shamuyarira, and one proof of this was the increasing number of African newspapers that were making use of PANA copy.

Many problems remained, notably in the field of telecommunications: The minister pointed out that several OAU member-states were still unable to receive the PANA radio transmissions.

He hoped that these difficulties would be overcome when the Panaftel network was completed, and when communication by satellite became available.

Interview with PANA Director

MB250455 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1723 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Harare, 22 May (SAPA)--The Pan African News Agency (PANA) needs an efficient satellite telecommunication network, permanent staff and money to

improve and expand, its director general Mr Auguste Mpass-Muba said today, according to Zimbabwe's news agency ZIANA.

In Harare to attend the fifth ordinary session of the PANA inter-governmental council meeting, Mr Mpass-Muba said African national news agencies also needed more funds to develop.

The meeting, to be held from Thursday, aims to provide PANA with guidelines for the improvement of news flows throughout Africa.

PANA, which has a permanent staff of 75 journalists and administrators based in Dakar in Senegal, is funded by contributions from international organizations like UNISCO, Arab banks and African banks. It now plans to have a correspondent in a frontline country to cover the liberation struggles in South Africa and SWA/Namibia.

On the day-to-day operations of the agency, Mr Mpass-Muba rejected the argument that PANA was "biased."

He said this argument was raised by the big Western news agencies and were aimed at discrediting PANA.

"We do receive propaganda but see to it that we do not transmit propaganda because this propaganda is not of interest to all our national news agencies in Africa," Mr Mpass-Muba said.

/9274

CSO: 3400/1883

ZIMBABWE

ZANU OFFICIAL DISCUSSES RISING CONSUMER PRICES

MB191531 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1528 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Harare, 18 May (SAPA)--Lack of communication between the ruling ZANU (PF) Party, the government and the people on the escalating cost of basic consumer goods is affecting the people's attitudes towards the state, a senior party official, said in Harare today.

Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, the secretary for administration, told a rally in Harare that communication between the people and various organs had been poor on matters that affect their everyday lives, ZIANA news agency reports.

He was responding to queries regarding the cost of living, a matter which was also questioned by the entire ZAPU (PF) central committee meeting in Highfield yesterday and subsequently noted in a press statement.

"We accept that the communication channels between the state, the party and the people have been poor in this regard. The price rises are not beyond our control because we import essential materials for the manufacture of goods at exorbitant prices," he said.

On rising electricity charges, Mr Nyagumbo, a member of the party's politburo and minister of state (political affairs and co-ordination of co-operatives) said;

"The expanding Zimbabwean economy has forced us to import power from Zambia at a cost of Zimdollar two million a month. In addition, we inherited the Hwange thermal power project from Ian Smith and this is taking a lot of our money to complete. We, therefore, need money and that is why power is becoming expensive."

/9274

CSO: 3400/1883

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

MUGABE'S MESSAGE TO DEFENSE COMMITTEE--In a speech read on his behalf, by Comrade Simon Muzenda, the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, today said there is an urgent need for all developing countries to ensure that there is peace and security in their territories. The occasion was the opening of the OAU Defense Commission Meeting in Harare today. Comrade Mugabe said this would enable development programs to be fully implemented. He said without peace and security there cannot be success in Africa's endeavors to improve its socioeconomic status. The prime minister noted that one of the problems OAU member states are facing is the lack of financial resources to effect military operations. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 May 86 MB] /9274

CSO: 3400/1883

SOUTH AFRICA

COSATU'S GENERAL-SECRETARY DISCUSSES LIBERATION STRUGGLE

Lagos THE AFRICAN GUARDIAN in English 22 May 86 p 54

[Interview with Cosatu General-Secretary Jay Naidoo, by Sully Abu in Gaborone; date not given]

[Text] In spite of Western support, apartheid will be destroyed

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) was launched last year with half a million registered members. Apart from thrusting the Black working class more powerfully into the centre stage in the struggle against apartheid, COSATU's vision of a liberated South Africa is highlighted by its democratic approach in matters of organisation and decision-making, an approach in which the unionists, the youth, street and neighbourhood committees reinforced each other. To find out more about this development, The African Guardian's, East and Southern African Regional Editor, Sully Abu, spoke with COSATU's General Secretary, Jay Naidoo, in Gaborone, the Botswana capital recently.

Excerpts from the interview:

The African Guardian: What is the nature of COSATU's involvement with the various campaigns being launched within South Africa for liberation?

Naidoo: The basic structure in COSATU is the local shop stewards councils and these are located in every major town and city, bringing together shop stewards from various affiliates. Certain structures have been set in motion at that local level and there would be national coordination within COSATU and with other democratic organisations on the ways in which these campaigns are going to be taken up. Apart from the anti-pass campaign, decisions were also taken in relation to the rent protests. The third campaigns centre around the release of Comrade Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners.

More specifically in relation to our organisation and struggles of workers on the factory floor, we have campaigns based around the right to strike, the campaign for a living wage, and an end to the cheap labour system and campaigns around increased maternity benefits.

How soon are some of these campaigns taking off as I recall you did give certain deadlines?

They are already in motion. A number of the local levels of COSATU have already discussed the issue and are moving forward. Take struggles around the living wage for instance, it's on-going. Look at the strikes that are taking place. There is a ten-fold increase in militancy and strikes in South Africa in the last few months. Employers have said it very openly that this is due to formation of COSATU.

What effect do you see the burgeoning worker democracy having on the nature of the society that will emerge from the ashes of apartheid?

The important aspect of our principle of worker-democracy is the emergence of control by workers over their lives, control over processes of production, control over the ability of employers to dismiss people, to employ people and to determine wages. We see the extension of this to the townships as being important to extend control by people over their lives.

So we see in the township now the development of area committees, of street committees--townships which to a large extent had been ungovernable.

Do you see the kind of society that will emerge in South Africa as being qualitatively different from the ones that emerged in the rest of Africa, taking Zimbabwe for instance, where you had liberation movements triumphing in the end but, if you like, in the shape of bourgeois democratic control?

I won't put it in those terms. What we talk about is in terms of our own experiences. We want to ensure that whatever change comes about doesn't just change the governments. We want to change the structure of our society. To do that means fundamental change, the restructuring of society and the economy to bring it under the control of the people. That is why we have the area committees, the shop stewards councils etc. For us workers, politics is not just being given the vote.

What's your relationship with the ANC, PAC and the UDF?

We recognize that we are not the only social force in the struggle. In recognising that, we see that workers need allies. The closest allies we have are the unemployed, the rural poor, the farm workers, the militant Black youth. But there are other allies as well, whether it is other interest groups or whether it is the democratic whites who are fighting conscription into the army.

We do not recognise that the ANC is regarded by the majority of people in South Africa as the leading representative of the oppressed. It was on that basis we met with the ANC in Lusaka last March.

What's COSATU's response to the attempts by Chief Gasha Buthelezi to organise a separate trade union federation?

Our most fundamental objection to Inkatha and the Kwazulu government of which he is head is our opposition to homelands or bantustans. We see that as an attempt to balkanise South Africa, to divide the unity of the oppressed and to dilute their energies. We have stated our commitment to a unitary state and a democratic government that is based on one person, one vote.

How do you see the future of the struggle shaping up?

We are convinced that change will come about, that the people will be victorious in spite of the genocide they are perpetrating against us, in spite of the support the regime has from the governments of the United States, West Germany and Britain. What we have asked of the frontline states and other democracies throughout the world is that they must acknowledge that change is inevitable and that any attempt to protect their short-term interests will only jeopardise their long-term interests.

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CSO: 3400/1867

SOUTH AFRICA

SADF CRITICIZES LEBOWA POLICE

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 May 86 p 17

[Article by Hannes de Wet]

[Text]

A lack of co-operation between the Defence Force and the Lebowa police appears to be hampering the hunt for the "comrades" who are supposedly behind the unrest and intimidation on the border between Steelpoort and Lebowa.

A member of the Defence Force told *The Star* that his unit last week managed to pin down a key element of the "comrades" across the border in Sekhukhuneland.

They were handed over to the Lebowa police.

"A few days later we saw the same people walking around as free as birds. All were released by the Lebowa police," the soldier said.

According to him groups of soldiers go on nightly patrols on foot to try and "smell out troublemakers".

"We have been quite successful so far — but what is the use if the Lebowa police release the people again?"

Farmers in the area said they had been receiving less threats since the contingent of soldiers and police had been strengthened.

However, farmers are still suffering losses because of "sabotage" to their property.

Mrs A M M Pretorius said there had been an attempt earlier this week to burn down a mealie crop on the farm of Mr Christo Louw.

"Fortunately there was no wind and they were able to douse the flames. Only about 1 ha was burnt down."

She also told of a tobacco farmer whose large shed was completely burnt down a few days ago.

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CSO: 3400/1849

SOUTH AFRICA

REPORTER GIVES ACCOUNT OF AWB/NP CONFRONTATION IN PIETERSBURG

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 25 May 86 p 5

[Article by Brian Pottinger]

[Text]

THE image could not have been more stark. Leo Senekal, Nationalist, his shirt front splashed with blood, confronts Eugene Terre Blanche during the tumult that was Pietersburg this week.

"This is Afrikaner blood," he shouts holding out his shirt, "and it is on your head." That, simply, was Pietersburg: Afrikaner blood and a painful rupture in a shared history and culture.

Resistance — often violent — against the government of the day is not new to Afrikaner nationalism. It happened in 1914 during the Rebellion, in 1922 during the Miner's Strike, again with the Ossewa Brandwag in the 1940s.

Neither are rowdy political meetings novel. Izak Butler, organiser of the Afrikanerweerstandbeweging rally in Pietersburg, pointed out in a letter to the local newspaper this week that not even during the days of the Brandwag did the United Party reserve right of entry to political meetings.

"That was a party with marrow in its bones," he observed wistfully.

So what makes the Pietersburg barney this week special?

Partly the burst of sudden drama in white politics which have for so long become stylised, dull, cerebral; partly the symbolism of the meeting itself and, largely, the implications of its violent outcome.

Pietersburg was dramatic, no doubt.

Some flashes:

■ A thin line of young National Party supporters drawn from Goudstad Teachers Training College and RAU waver back and forth

against a dense mass of khaki-clad AWB stormtroopers trying to force entrance to Pietersburg's Jack Botes Hall.

Answers

It is no match; the Nationalists — young, slight and too gentlemanly — crumble before the farm boys from throughout the Transvaal platteland. The AWB storms the doors through the scrum.

■ A policeman — one of a tiny contingent of nervous teenagers in blue — begs a burly AWB supporter not to force the police to arrest him. Earlier the brawler had been bundled into a police vehicle but was sprung after AWB members surrounded the van and demanded his release.

■ Terre Blanche in command, hoisted on the shoulders of followers and transfixed by TV spotlights, demands entry and insists the senior police officer in charge comes to see him.

In the melee he is ignored. The AWB breaches the door and Terre Blanche is dropped by his supporters as they also bolt for the gap.

■ Two policemen guarding the door — without batons or teargas — hesitate before the AWB surge. They decide to spray purple marking dye on the first ranks. An outraged Alkmaar Swart, intellectual guru of the ultra-right, is daubed like a Druid.

■ The AWB mass, banners flying, surge into the hall through broken doors, confusion before the stage, a rally of the ultra-right and in another wave of banners they bound across the Press tables and onto the stage.

Dislocated fighting breaks out between the AWB vanguard and a loyal Nationalist rearguard. Somebody opens a fire extinguisher.

■ The fighting abates and Terre Blanche emerges again on the shoulders of his supporters, surrounded by

bloodied tatterdemalions, his storm-troopers.

In a white cloud of fire extinguisher powder and pinned by the TV spotlights, he appears the beneficiary of a zany special effects department — Terre Blanche resurrected.

■ The AWB have all the high ground except the purely moral, the National Party the centre ground on the floor. Neither will allow the other side to talk so they sing, taunt, chant and alternately fight for an hour.

"What next?" demands an angry, elderly lady to a friend as she brushes away an AWB banner held mockingly just over her head by a 16-year-old stormtrooper on the stage.

■ A phalanx of banners — so reminiscent of another time — now lines the stage. Triumphant stormtroopers shout disjointed phrases and hotch-potch racist philosophies straight into the relentless eyes of the foreign TV cameras.

■ An end: the police arrive; a brigadier and a constable waving a tear-gas canister in front of him rather like an aerosol deodorant demonstration.

Five minutes are given to disperse and five seconds later the first teargas canister sails into the crowd. A rush for the doors.

The humiliation, more than the pain, is enormous. But still AWB leaders urge the crowd not to take their anger out on the police — they are only doing their job.

Some resist: a few stones are lobbed.

■ Outside Marie van Zyl of the Kappie Commando, bent double in her Voortrekker costume, coughs, cries and retches. These new frontiers of fortitude are not missed.

Somebody nearby begs a Press photographer: "Take a photograph of our suffering women, see what they are doing to our people."

The photographer — he has seen women crying from teargas elsewhere many times before — shakes his head in amusement.

And the symbolism?

It suffused the Pietersburg meeting. The National Party called the meeting with their most trusty war-horse as main speaker precisely because they wanted to confront these new lions of the north.

And the ultra-right saw it as the definitive victory coming after Nelspruit and Brits which would once and for all put the Northern Transvaal out of bounds to Ministers and representatives of the Government; a political no-go area held by the Boere Republiek.

The issue at Pietersburg on Thursday was not debate — it was war. And the far-right won. Terre Blanche, in absurd hyperbole, claimed Pietersburg as a God-given victory like Blood River.

Rubicon

And a sombre Pik Botha told the 500-odd Nationalists who had braved fire and water to gather at the National Party headquarters after the meeting that their mere presence was testimony to the possibility of peaceful change in South Africa.

Both the far-right and the Government passed Rubicons of sorts at Pietersburg.

The brawling in the Jack Botes Hall seals the AWB's clear intention to move into violent and activist politics. The content of the political debate is not at issue; it is now the principle of debate itself.

For the Government, also, it had to become some sort of Rubicon when the first tear-gas canister arced into the crowd.

There have been confrontations between the far-right and the police before: an HNP march to former Prime Minister Vorster's residence, face-offs at Monument Kopie about the right to use the facility.

But Pietersburg's Botes Hall has given the far-right in South Africa a battle cry. It is perverse.

Tearsmoke

The far-right have nothing to complain about from the police except over-hasty use of teargas; certainly they received more gentle treatment than black South Africans could expect or would likely receive.

The AWB stormed a public meeting, hijacked proceedings, destroyed property, intimidated citizens and arbitrarily assaulted members of the Press. They acted — in other words — like the thugs they are.

Pietersburg was not Peterloo or the 1905 Nevsky Prospekt shootings; but in the perversion of fact it will become so in far-right circles.

Already the battered Botes Hall — it is so new that most Pietersburgers have never used it — is being called in right-wing circles the "Hall of Tears".

SOUTH AFRICA

SUPERVISORS URGED TO ACQUIRE NEW SKILLS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 29 May 86 p 16

[Article by Sheryl Raine]

[Text]

Supervisors who continue to exercise control on the basis of racial authority are playing Russian roulette in the workplace, according to Mr Bobby Godsell, head of the Anglo American group's industrial relations department.

In Kempton Park yesterday, at an SA Institute of Supervisors seminar on the role of the supervisor in a changing South Africa, Mr Godsell said changing racial norms and attitudes in the country demanded new skills from supervisors.

The institute has launched an aggressive campaign to upgrade the status of supervisors. As first line managers they have considerable impact on labour relations and productivity levels. But it has been found that the role and skills of the supervisor have been largely neglected in industry even though the supervisor is a key salesman of management policy to employees.

AUTOMATICALLY OBEYED

"In the past, white supervisors had authority because they were white," said Mr Godsell. "They gave instructions and expected to be automatically obeyed because they were the baas as well as the boss.

"Social norms have changed. The inherent authority of the white supervisor is disintegrating. People who supervise on the basis of racial authority are playing Russian roulette. These days on the mines if you call a black worker a kaffir you are taking your life in your hands.

"The predominant white supervisory style is like a parking meter which has expired."

At present there were about 500 000 supervisors of all races in the country and Mr Godsell estimated that only about five percent had the necessary training to do their jobs effectively.

He urged management to give black and white supervisors the skills and the authority to supervise, to define their task clearly and to increase their status and reward for performing a key function in industry.

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SOUTH AFRICA

CALL TO MEDICAL STUDENTS TO FACE ISSUES OF OPPRESSION

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 28 May 86 p 15

[Text] Medical students have been urged to deal with "the issues in this oppressive society" as health for all could apply only in a genuinely democratic society.

Speaking at the annual Medical Students' Council congress last night, President of the Black Students' Society at the University of the Witwatersrand, Mr Dali Mpofu, said health could not be separated from the problems facing the country.

"Teargas has been proved fatal to infants and many township residents are running around with bullets in them," he said.

Six speakers addressed a group of more than 100 medical students

A number of speakers, from different political organisations, urged health professionals to use their skills on all people in South Africa.

The theme of the congress at the University of the Witwatersrand Medical School is "The road to health for all."

An example of how this was being achieved was demonstrated with a talk and slides on the success of Riverlea Clinic.

COMMUNICATION

This had only recently established communication with the township community through the Riverlea Youth Congress.

Northern Transvaal secretary of the United Democratic Front, Mrs Joyce Mabudafazi told of the self-help projects in the

homelands

She urged medical students to travel north in their holidays to help educate people on efforts to cleanse water from rivers, the building of ablution facilities and general health care.

Mr Hazy Sibanyoni, the health and safety officer for the National Union of Mineworkers, spoke on what he called the unhealthy situations in the mines.

He said: "Some of the situations miners are exposed to are dusty conditions, unventilated mines, poor lighting availability and places where miners work in metre-high positions, forcing them to sit for more than eight hours a day."

He called on medical students to help test and measure the dangers of these conditions

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24 June 1986

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

AWB BRANDWAG BRANCH ESTABLISHED--A strong Brandwag branch of the AWB was established last week at Steelpoort, where farmers have been the targets of petrol bombs and threats in past months. "We are just aiming to protect ourselves," said local AWB member Mr Paul Malan. AWB leader Mr Eugene TerreBlanche described the Steelpoort Brandwag as "a good and strong branch". He said more than 150 farmers in the area were members. He visited Steelpoort last week and spent the night there before traveling to Pietersburg. Farmers in the area have said repeatedly that they would not hesitate to protect themselves if the security forces could not get the situation under control. Most farmers doubt that the Government will give the green light for the building of an electrified fence on the border between Sekukhuneland and Steelpoort. But indications are that the SADF will still be taking three farmer representatives to the Limpopo border shortly to see the electrified fence there. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 May 86 p 17]/12828

AWB WARNS ANC--The AWB has sent a telex to ANC headquarters in Lusaka warning the organisation that there is no room for it in South African politics. The ANC has dismissed the message as the "the work of madmen", but the organisation seems unhappy with the rise of Far Right militants. Addressed to "the terrorists of the ANC", it says conservative Afrikaners will not allow their country to be taken over. The AWB, fired up with recent successes against National Party Ministers attempting to address political meetings, has clearly decided to extend its political clout further abroad. Twelve representatives from Nafcoc (National African Federated Chamber of Commerce) have had two days of talks in Lusaka with ANC top officials. The Nafcoc delegation was led by its president, Mr Sam Motsuenyane, and the ANC by its president, Mr Oliver Tambo. Mr. Motseunyane's wife was recently beaten up by a gang of thugs suspected to be right-wing activists. [Text][Johannesburg THE STAR in English 26 May 86 p 1]/12828

AFRIKAANS THREATENED BY SABC--Afrikaans academics are worried that their language is under threat from SABC technology. Their grouse is about simulcasts--broadcasting the original soundtrack of television programmes on radio while the dubbed version is transmitted on TV--which are due to begin in earnest in July. They are calling for the establishment of an advisory council of academics which the SABC would have to consult. Among their chief criticisms is that English-speakers and blacks, who have been able to improve their Afrikaans by watching Afrikaans programmes on TV, will choose to listen to the simulcasts in English. An expert on languages,

24 June 1986

Professor Jaap Steyn of the University of the Orange Free State, claims that English is being advanced at the expense of indigenous languages such as Afrikaans, Zulu and South Sotho. The academics' fears for the language seem to be supported by recent market research which found that during "Miami Vice", many Afrikaners preferred tuning into the radio for the original English soundtrack. Of the 200 people questioned in the survey--half of them Afrikaans-speaking--two thirds had listened to the radio. Afrikaans newspapers have quoted academics, language experts and cultural leaders as saying that about 90 percent of the simulcast broadcasting would be in English. [Text][Johannesburg THE STAR in English 26 May 86 p 3]/12828

WARNING BY BADENHORST--CAPE TOWN.--A warning this week that the Group Areas Act is still in force, and the Government remains committed to separate residential areas, was made by Mr Piet Badenhorst, Deputy-Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning. A spokesman for the Minister, Mr Chris Heunis, pointed out yesterday that The Citizen had reported the statement on Thursday and incorrectly attributed it to Mr Heunis as Minister, instead of to Deputy-Minister Mr Badenhorst. [By Brian Stuart] [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 May 86 p 11] /12379

CSO: 3400/1871

SOUTH AFRICA

BUTHELEZI SPELLS OUT NONNEGOTIABLE BLACK DEMANDS

MB251259 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1234 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Pietermaritzburg, May 25, SAPA--Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister of KwaZulu, today spelt out black demands from the government on which, he said, there could be no compromise.

He told a Victoria League banquet here at the weekend that blacks asked for no more nor less than what was wanted by normal people living in a normal country.

In pursuance of this, the demands on which they were not prepared to compromise were:

--All South Africans must participate equally in the selection of their government, whether at the national, regional or city level.

--Elections must be on a common voters roll.

--There must be equal education for all.

--All apartheid and all discrimination must be eliminated and all South Africans had to be treated equally in all aspects of life.

Chief Buthelezi said he understood that these changes would be traumatic for many, and it was therefore accepted that the process of change had to be through negotiation.

"It is only the extremists who talk of surrender," he said. "But I must warn that their numbers will grow and grow as the government delays and delays."

The Inkatha president said that the objective of the National Council Bill was quite impressive, but for it to succeed there was an urgent need to repeal "obnoxious" legislation.

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CSO: 3400/1870

SOUTH AFRICA

DANISH PARLIAMENT BREAKS TRADE LINKS

AU301250 Paris AFP in English 1238 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Copenhagen, May 30 (AFP) — The Danish parliament on Friday voted to break off all trade relations with South Africa, although Prime Minister Poul Schluter described the move as "scoring an own goal."

The four parties making up Mr. Schluter's minority government abstained on the vote, which was supported by the left-wing opposition and the radical party.

The move, which comes into force June 15, results from a decision made in December by Denmark to break off all relations with South Africa in protest over its apartheid policies. Friday's motion calls for an end to all Danish trade with both South Africa and the South African-administered territory of Namibia, and forbids Danish ships to carry third country goods either to or from South Africa. Although it comes into force on June 15, companies with current contracts will have a six-month delay in which to terminate them.

Mr. Schluter expressed concern that the new law would be "impossible to monitor."

"We are scoring an own goal," he said. "It is South Africa that has to be isolated, not Denmark."

Denmark's employers' union estimates that the move will cost a total of 2,000 jobs here. In 1985, the country sold goods worth 612 million krone (75 million dollars) to South Africa, and imported goods worth 1,685 billion krone (206 million dollars). Almost all the imports were coal.

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CSO: 3400/1870

SOUTH AFRICA

INCREASING USE OF RELIGION SEEN TO JUSTIFY POLITICAL STANCE

Cape Town THE ARGUS in English 20 May 86 p 12

[Article by Andrew Beattie]

[Text]

THEORISTS and theologians across the political spectrum have sought to justify a "Christian" position for or against violence as turmoil in South Africa starts to take the appearance of a civil war.

Shortly after the use of troops in the townships became fairly common nationwide, General Jannie Geldenhuys, then Chief of the Army, and now Chief of the Defence Force, issued to conscripts a document entitled "The Message of the SA Army".

It asserted, on religious grounds, that "our cause is just" and "we know we must win, for there is no alternative" — better known by the acronym, TINA, popularised by British premier Margaret Thatcher, and now in vogue among South African politicians.

Around the same time the Kairos Document was published by a group of theologians opposed to apartheid. It claimed that the State misused biblical texts and Christian beliefs to justify its oppression of the people, calling this State Theology.

The Kairos document furthermore labelled the South African State a morally illegitimate regime which should be replaced by a Government that would govern in the interests of all the people. It then called on Christians who

found themselves on the side of the oppressor not to collaborate with the State, but rather to side with the oppressed.

Father Albert Nolan, of the Institute of Contextual Theology, no less dogmatically asserted during a debate on the document that to reject this "kairos" (meaning Moment of Truth, or decision) would be tantamount to rejecting Christ.

WHILE the Kairos document has been criticised for being "pro-revolutionary", and for borrowing concepts from Marxism, anti-apartheid preachers have said General Geldenhuys's message is a classic example of the State Theology spoken of in the Kairos document.

General Geldenhuys' "message" is interesting in that it is one of the few documents to date from a state functionary that grapples with the theology of warfare.

It begins: "In humble submission to Almighty God who controls the Destiny of Nations and the history of peoples

"We declare that we are conscious of our responsibility towards God and man, are convinced of the necessity to stand united, to safeguard the integrity and freedom of our country, to ensure the maintenance of law and order

"We shall therefore help assure the national security

ty of the Republic of South Africa against any threat, help assure the national security of the national states against any threat, help protect the national security of our allies in southern Africa against aggression... give our best support to other Arms of the Service, the Armament Corporation, other state departments and our allies."

He then goes on to assert: "We are not political but serve the Government of the day with pride."

He continues: "We believe in the principles of warfare. We believe in obtaining and retaining the initiative. In combat we are cunning and aggressive. We believe in firepower, mobility and night-fighting capability."

It concludes: "...and we must believe."

THE Kairos document, in the summary published by the Kairos theologians, stated: "The god that the state preaches to us is not the God of the Bible. It is an idol. It is the god of the gun, the god of oppression. In fact this god is the devil in disguise — the anti-Christ."

"The apartheid state misuses biblical texts and Christian beliefs to justify its oppression of the people. This we call State Theology. (In) ROMANS 13

Paul says we should obey the State. That would be true in normal circumstances but Paul does not tell us in this text what we should do when the state becomes unjust, oppressive

and tyrannical. When this happens we must say with Peter we shall 'Obey God rather than men' (ACTS 5=29). We should also read Revelations 13 where the State is described as a diabolical beast."

Turning to the increasing use by the State of the term "Law and order", the Kairos theologians said: "When we oppose the State and resist its oppression, the State makes use of the idea of law and order to make us feel guilty and sinful. But 'law' here is unjust and discriminatory laws of apartheid and 'order' here is the disorder of oppression and exploitation. We must as Christians resist this type of law and order and obey the law and order of God."

Although the Kairos Document did not go as far as calling for a violent overthrow of the State, theologians involved in its drafting pointed out that the Church did recognise the concept of a "just war".

The juxtaposition of the two articles indicates a widening rift in South African society that is unlikely to be healed peacefully.

SOUTH AFRICA

NP GOVERNMENT BEING OVERTAKEN BY BLACK, NEW NATS OPPOSITION

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 23 Apr 86 pp 3-6

[Text]

The *National Party* (NP) government, having already lost the political initiative, is rapidly being overtaken both by black opposition and by more pragmatic whites, particularly the "New Nationalist" (New Nats) group of Afrikaners, which now believe in the desirability - and inevitability - of majority black rule. The erosion of apartheid and white government has accelerated faster during the past few months than anticipated. President **P.W. Botha's** government has only a 50:50 chance of surviving the next 12 months.

Black organised opposition has been given a big psychological boost by a remarkable, sustained conviction that the "final phase" towards the transfer of power to blacks has been entered, decisively. One important turning-point was last month's "national education crisis committee" conference in Durban. The conference decided that black pupils, who had boycotted classes for months, should return to their desks. Behind this move lies some of the most sophisticated revolutionary theory to emerge within the country's divided black opposition since the *African National Congress* (ANC) and *Pan-Africanist Congress* (PAC) were banned in 1960. It is articulated notably by **Zwelakhe Sisulu** (son of **Walter Sisulu** who is serving a life sentence with **Nelson Mandela**) and his mother **Albertina Sisulu**, a patron of the *United Democratic Front* (UDF) and a highly-respected veteran of the black struggle.

Zwelakhe, a former president of the *Black Consciousness-oriented Media Workers' Association of South Africa*, has been detained or banned for much of the past five years. Coming from the same generation of the equally impressive **Thabo Mbeki** (ANC director of information), he straddles the gap between ageing black nationalists and the alienated young blacks now spear-heading the township violence.

In his capacity as editor of the Catholic-funded weekly newspaper, *New Nation*, Zwelakhe says the national liberation struggle has reached a crucial point. Blacks must now choose, he says, between a descent into "chaos and barbarism" or a return of parents and workers to the youth-led struggle, in order to redirect political energies, which have rendered many townships ungovernable, into the fledgling structures of "peoples' power". He argues, justifiably, that townships which have established an "organised centre of peoples' power" (in contrast to mob violence alone) have been most successful in rolling back state repression. (The planned May Day work stay-aways next week, organised by the *Congress of South African Trade Unions - Cosatu* - will provide a symbolic return of workers to the "vanguard of the liberation struggle".)

In the Eastern Cape, where the people's power Zwelakhe refers to is most advanced, the *South African Defence Force* (SADF) has been forced out of some of the townships. Even the most brutal repression has failed to reverse the advances made by blacks to create alternative administrative structures for their townships. The question of whether change is possible without blacks *concentrating* on violence is obviously much debated. **Winnie Mandela**, for one, appears to believe violence should not be deplored at this late stage, partly because it is inevitable, partly because it does break down apartheid and the white state. The danger lies in whether such sustained violence, in the absence of organised "people-power", will make the country ungovernable well after the white government has gone.

A crucial goal of many political activists now is to recruit more whites into the country's extra-parliamentary internal opposition. The UDF is leading the wooing campaign, hoping to breach the vast chasm between the dying stages of nationalist rule and the forming of a representative government. Since his resignation in February as leader of the *Progressive Federal Party* (PFP), **Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert** has applied himself to the same general campaign. His first major engagement was a well-publicised speech to 2,500 people at the Johannesburg city hall earlier this month.

Van Zyl Slabbert has also been encouraging contacts between the ANC in Lusaka and extra-parliamentary groups of the Afrikaner establishment. A continual stream of delegations from South Africa to Lusaka, and the resulting joint communiqués, not only improves the prospects of the ANC becoming accepted as an umbrella organisation, but it is also a shrewd psychological tactic. For sooner or later the NP government will realise that it would be less

damaging to the NP's own perceived interests if the ANC were allowed to be a legitimate, unbanned political party within the country. Anyhow, the 26-year ban of the ANC has effectively been set aside by black control of some townships in western and eastern Cape. A "Free Mandela" rally in Cape Town earlier this month, attended by over 2,000 people, saw ANC flags by the score, ANC uniforms, rosettes and the presence of the ANC Youth Brigade. A speech by a leading black revolutionary thinker, **Johnny Issel** (who has spent most of the past 16 years banned or detained), openly espoused the ANC's aims, and urged the crowd to come into the open and support it. Meetings like this are now widespread. The official ban on the ANC is thus a nonsense.

The recent court ruling on the invalidity of arbitrary banning orders has led to the unbanning of nearly all the country's main opponents of apartheid, including even those such as **Roley Arstein**, an acknowledged communist. That the NP manifestly is being overtaken by events has greatly encouraged activists and intellectuals who were so dejected until now that they had gone almost into hibernation. Professor **Jakes Gerwel**, a leading pro-ANC black intellectual in the Cape who was recently appointed rector of the *University of Western Cape*, is addressing white audiences again after deciding three years ago that it was a lost cause.

The strains of the past 18 months have been felt throughout the white establishment, ranging from the PFP, the press, commerce and industry, the ranks of former *United Party* white conservatives, and to the core of President Botha's embattled NP. The last is the most important. As previously reported (AC Vol 26 No 22), Botha's presidency is grinding to an end. Not only are leading Afrikaner politicians effectively campaigning for the presidency, but the New Nats (see box) are threatening to bust up the already diminished NP. The *verligte-verkrampte* distinction is rapidly being turned by the urgency of the situation into outright division.

The New Nats

Politically more radical than most members of the liberal white PFP, they demand the total abolition of apartheid, the release of Nelson Mandela and the unbanning of the ANC and other political organisations. They then propose a geographic federation is worked out at a constitutional conference. They oppose special protection for ethnic minorities, believing that the individual's right - to be enshrined in a Bill of Rights - should take precedence over the rights of any ethnic group. But they want a lot of devolution of central government's executive and legislative powers, and hence demand some constitutional protection for the regional components of their proposed federal system.

The New Nats are to be found among leading Afrikaner academics, journalists, in the private sector and civil service, the Afrikaner churches, think-tank bodies, the *Broederbond* and the organisations under its umbrella. **Pik Botha** and minister of trade **Dawie de Villiers**, are the only cabinet members considered sympathetic to the New Nats. Deputy minister of education **Sam de Beer** and his counterpart at finance, **Kent Durr**, can be considered New Nats.

Other Transvaal sympathisers include well-known figures such as **Theo Alant**, **Piet Coetzer**, **Willie Cuyler**, **Jan Grobler**, **Roelf Meyer**, **Wynand Malan**, **Org Marais**, **Albert Nothnagel**, **Stoffel van der Merwe**, **Lukas Van Vuuren**, **Veltie Veldman**, **Piet Welgemoed** and **Leon Wessels**. Cape New Nats include **Hendrik Coetzer**, **Peet de Pontes**, **Lampie Fick**, **Pietman Hugo**, **Hernus Kriel**, **Sakkie Louw** and **André van der Walt**. Sympathisers in Natal include **Connie Botha**, **Willie Heine** and **Hendrik Tempel**. The only Orange Free State New Nats are **Wynand Breytenbach** and one nominated MP, **Fanus Schoeman**.

While the New Nats are not yet ready to break away from the NP, they will probably be the catalyst which forces Botha's government into an alliance with the PFP in order to keep the Afrikaner-dominated right-wing at bay. But whether the New Nats have the courage of their apparent convictions remain to be seen. **Leon Wessels**, **Wynand Malan** and **Stoffel van der Merwe** wanted to visit the ANC in Lusaka. The NP caucus told them not to. So they stayed at home.

Aside from the 30 or so New Nats (out of the 127-strong NP caucus), about 35 MPs appear to support **Chris Heunis**, the Cape leader and minister for constitutional development. **F.W. de Klerk**, minister of national education and leader of the dominant Transvaal NP caucus, has a hard-core of about 28 parliamentary supporters. He has enthusiastic backers among the increasingly influential English-speaking members of the government, including the arch conservative **John Wiley** (minister of environmental affairs), **Kent Durr** (deputy minister of finance), **Ron Miller** (deputy minister of foreign affairs), and the more liberal **Denis Worrall**, the South African ambassador in London. Worrall, who seems to have made the psychological transition from Botha to De Klerk with astonishing ease, is tipped for the constitutional portfolio in a De Klerk government – however short-lived it might turn out to be.

That leaves about 34 undecided NP MPs. Their vote could be crucial. Equally crucial will be the second-round voting of those who opted for Heunis or foreign minister **Pik Botha** in the first round. The emergence of **Gerrit Viljoen**, minister of cooperation and development, especially if he gets New Nat support, should not be discounted. The expected axing of two politically-discredited conservatives in the cabinet – law and order minister **Louis Le Grange** and minister of communications **Lapa Munnik** – will be a boost to the *verligtes*.

Some analysts believe the pending disarray in white party politics could result in a nationalist coalition between the NP and the 27-MP PFP in order to keep the growing extreme right-wing parties (19 MPs)

at bay. (AC Vol 27 No 5). Others believe the collapse of the political centre would strengthen the security arm of government – at least in the short-term – or even lead to an open military coup. Fearful of this prospect, a number of worried businessmen are urging Botha to suspend the NP government and form a “government of transition” of all races. His response, characteristically, is evasive.

The future of the tricameral parliament looks most shaky. MPs in the coloured and Indian chambers are increasingly dissatisfied with the pace of apartheid reform, and they all share a vehement dislike for De Klerk. If he were to succeed Botha, they could well walk out of parliament. They might walk out anyhow if legislation to restore arbitrary powers to the police following the lifting of the state of emergency is pushed through parliament by the NP majority on inter-chamber committees. (The prospect of a walk-out because of legislation like this has already led to a “shoot-out” in cabinet. We understand Le Grange lost).

The role of the police, under Le Grange, has become a major stumbling block to implementing further reforms of apartheid. Though Le Grange is a target of the New Nats and cannot expect to survive much longer in cabinet, the NP caucus and extra-parliamentary right-wing parties and pressure groups increasingly believe tough policing methods are needed. Otherwise, they say, there will not be enough order for reform to be seen to be having an impact. Certainly Botha's announcement last week of an amnesty for all pass-law prisoners and an end to further pass-law arrests failed to have much impact at home. Internationally it was completely overshadowed by President **Reagan** and Col. **Gadaffi**. Botha is now making noises about reforming the Group Areas Act, saying that it is not a “holy cow”. He envisages a crash session of reformist legislation in August. As in the past, he will probably be overtaken by events.

The reformist bills include the restoration of black citizenship rights, the granting of black property rights, the reform of second-tier government and the formal abolition of the pass laws. Most important will be legislation to set up the proposed National Statutory Council – a forum for negotiation between the NP government and black leaders. The above reform session is due a week after the NP's extraordinary federal congress in Durban, where Botha will try to get approval for the proposed council and a mandate for the unspecified political accommodation of blacks.

A version of the **Swiss** cantonal system, itself adapted to the dictates of an ethno-geographic fed-

eration, is often pondered in top government circles today. The choice of Durban for the NP meeting will keep nationalist minds focussed on power-sharing: Chief **Buthelezi's** KwaZulu administration and elements of the white second-tier government are attending the "indaba" (meeting) there to find a formula for the joint administration of Natal province.

The day of the EPG

General **Olusegun Obasanjo**, the former Nigerian head of state, and Lord **Anthony Barber**, chairman of *Standard Chartered Bank* and a former British chancellor of the exchequer, have emerged as the EPG's key figures. Obasanjo was the first African politician to meet Mandela. Later in the EPG's recent two-week visit to South Africa, Barber and others also met him, and were much impressed.

Apart from the lifting of the ban on the ANC and the release of Mandela, the EPG's main proposals are in fact made up from Botha's own reported commitments to reform - including the scrapping of the pass laws, the restoration of black citizenship and the accommodation of black political rights within a system which respects universal franchise.

The EPG is due to meet in London again next week to decide whether to go ahead with another visit to South Africa in May. Meanwhile the group is working on its report for the seven-nation Commonwealth committee meeting at the end of June which will advise on whether economic sanctions should be applied. The Commonwealth's demands, made at the Nassau summit last October, are:

- The renunciation of apartheid, accompanied by specific action to that end
- The termination of the state of emergency
- The immediate, unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners
- The lifting of the ban on the ANC and the creation of conditions of political freedom
- The initiation, in the context of a suspension of violence on all sides, of a process of dialogue across lines of colour, politics and religion towards establishing a non-racial and representative government

So far only the state of emergency has been lifted. A lot more progress will have to be made before June if sanctions are not to be recommended by the EPG and put into effect by the Commonwealth. The *quid pro quo* for Pretoria in cooperating with the EPG will be an ANC truce once apartheid is abolished, before round-table talks. ANC leader **Oliver Tambo** is working with the EPG. This could be the NP government's last chance for a negotiated settlement.

Nationalist organs are already preparing the party faithful for another change of the "adapt or die" mould. This time they are being presented with a choice between national suicide and the forming of a new alliance of "black, brown and white democrats". There might be a white referendum on the matter before the end of the year.

Little can be expected to come of the NP's tortured efforts to form such an alliance. Since Botha's announcement in January that he intended to form a statutory council, the idea has been widely discredited by blacks, including Buthelezi. Intense cabinet discussion about appointing black cabinet ministers

has been a non-starter for the simple reason that there are no black volunteers. Equally superfluous is the idea of trying to draw Buthelezi into a "Muzorewa-option" in which whites would retain real power, with black ministers and a black president installed for show. (De Klerk, who caused foreign minister Pik Botha to be slapped down for talking about the possibility of a black president, is now himself canvassing the idea privately).

With the NP looking increasingly lost, the Commonwealth's Eminent Persons Group (EPG) - AC Vol 26 No 25 - is playing a far more important role than originally thought possible. The group left a carefully-worded set of proposals on President Botha's desk after a low-profile visit last month. (See box). International pressure on the NP government, threatened with economic sanctions and financial pressure from its creditor banks, is at least having some effect. A full round-table conference of South Africans is still just possible.

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SOUTH AFRICA

FRG OBSERVER REPORTS ON TOWNSHIP CONDITIONS, TENSIONS

Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 2 May 86 p 4

[Article by Hans Jakob Ginsburg: "We Do Not Want To Be Assassins"]

[Text] It is an apparently peaceful late afternoon in Soweto, the black south west township, 15 km by car from the skyscrapers of Johannesburg city center. While the foreign visitor laboriously threads his way through the monotonous streets of small corrugated sheet roofed houses, thousands of black men and women are on the move, tired from a long working day and a long commute home. Townships are home, work--if any--is in white South Africa: Roughly 30 percent of blacks in the urban areas of the country are unemployed.

The homecomers have an everyday look about them. But somewhere on the city motorway, young blacks had held up a bus filled with blacks. A robbery which caused the all-present police to intervene against future potential victims: Because a handful of robbers had attacked the bus, every vehicle on the motorway was stopped, and the black passengers on all buses to Soweto had to continue their way home on foot. An incident those affected did not think worth mentioning--it has happened too often. Nor do the local reporters show any interest in such events any longer. Newspapers critical of the government report unrest in the townships almost only if people are killed. Newspapers friendly to the government, for their part, report on the same lines as radio and television which are preoccupied these days in telling the public about a team of New Zealand rugby players who are traveling in the country despite the worldwide sport boycott.

However, South African whites do more and more frequently hear about horrific violence among blacks: Various ethnic groups whose men fight for land ownership with bludgeons and knives; political murders of black officials, policemen and city councillors; dreadful assassinations in remote regions where--according to government propaganda--urban agitators exploit the black masses' belief in witchcraft to massacre loyal black citizens. The government says that 308 black South Africans have fallen victim to black violence since early 1985. Pieter Willem Botha and his ministers do not mention the demonstrators killed by the police. Their numbers may be 3 times greater.

"The black man is no murderer. We simply refuse to be murderers, we want reconciliation." The young woman saying this had been arrested during the

recently lifted state of emergency, without any reason and together with her totally unpolitical mother. She also lost her job with an American computer company. "Do not think that I earned good money there; whites earned triple my wages for the same job." Despite her EDP skills, she is sure that she has no prospects for another job: "They have a black list and know my background."

Due to her life history, Emily belongs to the political elite: In 1976, after the major and violently suppressed protests of Soweto school children against the miserable educational system, she fled to one of the independent neighboring countries, began to study, returned to her parents in Soweto a few years later and was promptly arrested. "The policemen told me that I was an ANC terrorist, not a student, that they had found me guilty, and that I should from now on work as their spy. I refused, even when they tortured me and held a knife to my throat." The graceful woman saw the horror in the eyes of her interlocutor and smiled: "Actually it was quite easy for me to hold on. I thought of Nelson Mandela and what he managed to stand for the longest time, a grown and successful man, a father. What did I have to lose by comparison? And in fact they finally let me go."

"We Fight a Civil War"

Is hers a typical story? Most certainly, Emily insists: The more resolute the black opposition, the greater the police efforts to infiltrate informers in the black groups and find black "collaborators." "Whatever these people do threatens my life. Why, therefore, should they survive?"

Does the young woman therefore approve the violence done alleged government loyalists? "We do not like that at all. It throws back our struggle by 1,000 years. But if we do not use violence, we will all die." Is she exaggerating? "Why do you say that? We are fighting a civil war in this country, and we know the weapons Botha has not yet used. He could destroy an entire township by using heavy artillery or napalm."

Nowadays we must look hard for signs of open Apartheid in Johannesburg's inner city. Most restaurants are open to blacks just as to whites. Blacks may ride in taxis, go to cinemas and theaters, sit on park benches and--if they have the money--shop in the elegant stores. Still, each afternoon Johannesburg turns into a white city, and the blacks must withdraw to their squalid residential areas, where there are no opportunities for proper shopping nor cinemas, where social life is restricted to the tiny and overcrowded houses ("matchboxes"), semilegal beer halls and churches. Apartheid has a new face. No longer the old signs "whites only" but the worst social chicanery: Horrendous rents and utility charges imposed on the blacks of the townships by the state, a totally inadequate commuter system, finally the constant harassment by the police to whom any black face is suspect, any black assembly a possible pretext for deadly gunfire.

By its sheer size (almost 2 million residents), Soweto tends to make people forget the fact that it is surrounded by hostile forces. Alexandra, on the other hand, Johannesburg's second black settlement, is so small that the police patrols at the edges of that township are always visible. Moreover,

Alexandra does not consist of rows of tiny and uniform houses as Soweto does. Instead it is a slum, where more than 100,000 people live in wrecked cars, huts made of corrugated sheets and long ruined barracks. Alexandra also is located right inside white Johannesburg, borders directly on a major industrial district. Consequently anyone seeking work or wishing to feed his family by occasional jobs prefers the shabby township in the center to all other more distant black residential areas.

For all these reasons, Alexandra, the black workers' suburb, is a center of the black opposition movement. The young black trade unions have more followers here than elsewhere, but the miserable living conditions have so far frustrated all efforts at reform. Black politics were long dominated by a reformist group around Sam Buti, a clergyman and Desmond Tutu's predecessor as president of the South African Council of Churches. He failed in his own backyard: As chairman of Alexandra's official community council, he was unable to satisfy the expectations of his former followers, ground down between the millstones of white government power and black insurrection and finally judged a "traitor"--because, so claim young people in Alexandra, he helped his friends and relatives to get better housing.

In 1985, the year of unrest, Buti's community council was replaced by a civic association. Paul Beeya, its chairman, last week received SPD chairman Willy Brandt, in the miserable township. Even Beeya, a friend of the established black resistance groups, is deemed too accommodating by the young radicals. For some weeks past, street committees of young unemployed blacks have been disputing with Beeya's people for control of the township--if something like black control can be said to be possible at all under the thumb of the white police. The relatively small Alexandra clearly demonstrated the split in black resistance: A seasoned old leadership, made unpopular by inescapable compromises with the white authorities, was replaced by less experienced people who in turn can hold their own vis-a-vis militant juveniles only thanks to the moral support of the top black leaders who are nationally acknowledged.

Still, all these differences vanish when Botha's police attacks the black opposition. Pretoria evidently aims to intimidate precisely those opposition spokesmen who are capable of a dialogue. A few days after the prominent German's visit to Alexandra, masked black policemen entered the township and laid fire to the houses of members of the civic association. Beeya's home burned down, his wife was felled by blows from the disguised government helpers. Beeya's old opponent Buti demonstrated his solidarity with the militant black protest movement: He made the pilgrimage to Pollsmoor Prison near Cape Town to visit Nelson Mandela, the leader revered by almost all black rebels.

The situation is very different outside the large cities. The principle of divide and rule has long dominated the nationality policy of the white regime. From this follows also the doctrine of "separate development" and the establishment of the 10 so-called homelands: The Republic of South Africa has ceded around one seventh of its territory to 10 black "national states." Ceded? The nastiest suppression, at first glance seemingly a thing of the past in the large cities, rules supreme and barefaced in the homelands.

Bophutatswana is one of the largest and, according to statistics, the richest homeland. In 1977, South Africa granted independence to President Lucas Mangope--an independence recognized nowhere outside southern Africa. His alleged country consists of seven regional fragments, north and south of the major industrial region around Johannesburg; Migratory workers and commuters provide the revenues of the pseudo state. The so-called border is almost invisible. The car driver reads the name of the homeland on a giant sheet roof at the point where, according to the road map, South Africa ends and the state with the hard to pronounce name begins. No border post is located under that giant roof, merely a betting office. Behind this building begins a miserable settlement with a name most unsuitable for the subtropical veldt--Winterveldt.

Bloody Sunday

Winterveldt is not shown in any official Bophutatswana statistics but, at more than 100,000 residents, represents the most populous place in the country. The people of Winterveldt hate President Botha but even more wholeheartedly despise puppet President Mangope. If they were South Africans, they would be able to combine in labor unions and citizens initiatives. As subjects of the homeland's president, they lack these rights. Even worse: They and their children have lost the right to return to South Africa proper. In South Africa they are deemed to be foreigners, at best tolerated as commuters or migratory workers, and their families must remain in "independent" Bophutatswana. That is terrible for everyone but even more demeaning for the majority of the Winterveldt people who cannot even console themselves with the thought that they are being governed by their own. Bophutatswana is supposed to be the national state of the Tswanas, and most Winterveldt blacks are not members of that tribe.

The police maltreats them, because they refuse to send their children to the miserable school--Tswana is the language of instruction. Mangope's police arrested hundreds of young people, because groups of young blacks--comrades in the language of the black movement--organized the school boycott. On Easter Sunday 1986, the parents of these young people called their fellow citizens to a protest meeting on the dusty soccer ground of Winterveldt--and there a dignitary of the quasi state addressed them and commanded the followers of "foreign" South African rebels to leave the country; Bophutatswana, he said, existed for decent Tswanas and nobody else. When noisy protests erupted, policemen appeared around the soccer ground and opened fire on the defenseless assembly.

Four weeks after bloody Sunday, young people once again play soccer on the sports ground. Ostensibly normalcy has returned to the poverty stricken settlement. In fact, residents in the vicinity of the soccer ground mourn 18 victims of the trigger happy Bop police. They include old women hit by the police bullets when they tried to hide in the toilets. "We are just simply afraid," says a 16-year old comrade. "The police hunts us, we are arrested and tortured overnight." An old man, wearing a suit and tie because he is expecting whites to visit, shows me the papers of his son who was employed and housed by Pretoria municipal works--3 hours distant from Winterveldt--until the police shot and killed him, too. The old man is still negotiating with

the police for permission at last to bury his son. The Bophutatswana authorities and their white masters are unwilling to risk a political demonstration at the funeral.

A few days ago, the Winterveldt people heard on the radio about the white government's plan to abolish the hated pass laws. Will that reform result in the end of the black ghettos, will Soweto, Alexandra and Winterveldt disappear as they now exist? Or does the government plan new legislation and decrees on the spatial separation of the races? "Nothing is changed for us in the homelands anyway," the young comrade says, "and by now we do not believe anything Botha says."

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SOUTH AFRICA

ASIANS BUY ELITE HOMES IN WHITE JOHANNESBURG AREAS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 May 86 p 11

[Article by Andrew Thomson and Bert van Hees]

[Text]

ALTHOUGH the Government has announced that the Group Areas Act is still in force, inquiries by The Citizen have revealed that Asians are buying properties in certain White Johannesburg areas, using nominees or White-controlled front companies.

It has also been reported that estate agencies in Cape Town were openly advertising for Coloured and Indian buyers for luxury homes in elite White residential areas.

In terms of the Group Areas Act, buyers of properties in areas set aside for other race groups must obtain permits from the authorities to purchase and occupy the premises.

Asked whether an active campaign was being conducted against people contravening the Act, a police spokesman in Pretoria told The Citizen that action was taken when such contraventions came to the notice of the police in the normal execution of their duties.

Complaints by the public were investigated and dockets then forwarded to the Attorney-General.

Nominees

The Citizen has established that Asian's using either nominees or White controlled front companies are buying houses in the White suburbs of Homestead Park and Mayfair in Johannesburg.

Rumours that Asians were also buying properties in Bedfordview, east of Johannesburg could not be confirmed by either the South African Institute of Estate Agents, the town clerk, Mr Anton Kruger, or a major estate agent in the area.

Mr Kruger said in his experience there had been only one case of Asians illegally occupying a Bedfordview property.

Estate agents contend that they have no way of knowing whether the buyer of a property is acting on private initiative or whether he has been paid to act as a nominee.

Mr Kruger said in his experience there had been only one case of Asians illegally occupying a Bedfordview property.

The chairman of the Southern Transvaal branch of the SA Institute of Estate Agents, Mr Viv Morris, said that the institute's members did not of their own volition discriminate between buyers on the grounds of race, and it was the institute's long-held view that the Group Areas Act should be reviewed.

The code of conduct laid down by the Estate Agents Board compels them to act within the law, although some estate agents say they know of colleagues who disregard the conditions of the Group Areas Act for financial reasons. In the Mayfair area, for example, virtually the only interested buyers are Asians.

Agents

Mr George Symons, whose company has operated in the Mayfair area for nearly a century, said his agents never concluded transactions with nominees or front companies if they were aware of the fact.

Mr Symons pointed to the danger in using nominees, citing cases where nominees had withheld the title deeds to properties after those nominating them had paid for them. He said this was just one of the "immoral side-issues" emanating from the Group Areas Act.

He said that it was the view of many estate agents that the Group Areas Act itself was an immoral piece of legislation, which defied natural justice and ignored human factors.

He explained how the Act had distorted the housing market in Mayfair East where the price of a pair of semi-detached houses had risen from about R15 000 eight years ago to as much as R120 000 today after Fordsburg and parts of Mayfair had been declared an Indian residential area.

Asians currently buying property in the area were paying premium prices without complaint, because of the crippling cost of commuting from far-away Lenasia.

Artificial

"The Group Areas Act requires very early attention by the Government," said Mr Symons. "The high prices being paid in Mayfair East today are the result of a forced artificial demand created by the Act."

From Cape Town it is reported that Constantia and Zeekoevlei in the Peninsula's southern suburbs are among the most popular suburbs where many White home owners are reported to have sold their houses to buyers of other races.

Some residents said they were unconcerned over the development, while others have warned

agencies: "If 'they' come, we go."

Yesterday, a Constantia resident told The Citizen she did not mind Blacks moving into her area.

She had lived in Constantia for a number of years, and had made many friends, she said, but she had been dismayed when some of her "so-called friends" had sold up and left "without even saying goodbye".

She said: "Whites in this area seem to have too much money and don't care about people. Blacks are different, and I would rather have friendly Blacks as neighbours than snobbish whites."

Sale

According to estate agencies, Indian and Coloured buyers are freely disclosing their race groups when they sign deeds of sale.

The agencies say that if they present a legally binding deed of sale to the authorities, together with a guarantee that finance is available, applications for exemption from the Group Areas Act go through in a matter of weeks.

One agency that specialises in the Marina da Gama area near Mui-zenberg said a recent showhouse attracted Indian families who wanted to live in the area.

Although the agency had been criticised by residents in the area, a spokesman said: "We are simply in the business of selling houses."

A recent deal was concluded for R185 000 for a waterfront house in the area, he said.

One of the Peninsula's "big five" agencies is advertising: "Marina da Gama — Coloured, Indian buyers ... I have a selection of prime properties in this area for you."

The agency's stock includes a home with a "superb entertainer's pad", with pool, selling for R225 000, as well as a choice of four waterfront homes for R200 000 and a "Revel Fox-designed waterfront house with features galore" for which the asking price is R275 000.

A number of buyers are investors looking for blocks of flats and offices, who believe prices will jump if the Group Areas Act is scrapped.

SOUTH AFRICA

AFTERMATH OF RAIDS; ASSESSING COSTS

Nel: Great Successes on Three Fronts

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 10

[Article by Kitt Katzin]

[Text]

WITH the outside world still shocked over this week's three-pronged SADF strike, the South African Government has classified the mission an unqualified success on three specific fronts.

It believes that what it has lost in terms of international condemnation it will more than make up with immediate and substantial gains, if only temporary, in the escalating anti-terror war.

What the Zambia-Zimbabwe-Botswana raid showed was a recognition by the Government that the ANC has entrenched itself as a permanent military enemy capable of increasing its acts of terror in spite of its operations centre being confined to far-off Zambia.

It was for this reason that the SADF struck at the nerve centre of the ANC's operations in Lusaka and at inter-linking training and transport facilities in Harare and Gaborone.

These centres, and others, provide the main routes through which the ANC moves its equipment into South Africa — mainly from Lusaka through Zimbabwe and across the Botswana border.

Other routes are through Zimbabwe and across the Mozambican border, though this is used less frequently.

In these terms, says the Government, there can be no doubt about the strikes' success: with the ANC's main supply routes wiped out, there should be a dramatic fall-off in its campaign of violence.

Therefore, says the Government, it cannot agree that international condemnation or the threat of punitive measures will mean it paying a heavy price when weighed against the importance of holding the dominant role in military terms.

Thus, the immediate effect of the raids, say Government spokesmen, should be assessed in this light, even though points scored could be as easily neutralised by ANC counter-attacks.

Given the fact that it is recognised as a permanent enemy, it seems Government strategy is aimed more at reducing and containing the ANC's terror campaign than attempting to destroy it.

Its acts of violence, the Government is saying, cannot in all probability be totally eliminated. These will go on but, hopefully, will not increase.

As Mr Louis Nel, the Deputy Minister of Information, told an international Press conference "The Government cannot prevent the Soviet Union from training, arming and support-

ing the ANC but it can prevent it from enjoying secure base facilities in neighbouring states, and from developing infrastructure inside South Africa."

Although the ANC, says Mr Nel, is not a danger to the Government, it is a threat to civilians and he cited figures showing a dramatic increase in its activities in the past 10 years.

In this time the ANC was responsible for 12 landmine explosions (30 were found by the security forces) used 113 hand-grenades in attacks (1273 seized) used 115 limpet mines (400 more found) used seven demolition mines (87 located) and 85 anti-personnel mines.

However, considering that the ANC, in terms of these statistics, appears to be more active than ever, the question asked by opposition political leaders and others is whether, with so much to lose in terms of sanctions and other punitive measures, South Africa really gained from this week's strikes.

According to PFP leader Mr Colin Eglin, the raids would not promote the well being of the public and whatever the Government achieved in the security field, the mission amounted to a political blunder.

He said they would not reduce Marxist or communist influence in southern Africa or

the degree of terrorism in South Africa itself, and not even Government members were unanimous on whether the raids were well timed.

World leaders joined in the chorus of condemnation and South Africa stood accused of committing perhaps its most serious and ill-timed military bungle yet, not to speak of mounting pressure for action on diplomatic, economic and other fronts.

Mr Nel, on the other hand, is adamant the raids were successful from any point of view.

Firstly, South Africa had scored an important military and strategic victory.

Second, in psychological terms, the outcome acted as a morale booster at home and a warning to the ANC and the countries offering it sanctuary.

The primary function of the mission, said Mr Nel, was to disrupt ANC infiltration and supply routes from which many of the 253 ANC attacks in South Africa in the past two years had sprung.

It is generally believed the ANC has intensified its movements along the Lusaka-Botswana route across the border into the north-western Transvaal.

Minister Scoffs at Zimbabwean Intelligence

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 10

[Article by Kitt Katzin]

[Text]

THE government has denied it tipped off intelligence agents in neighbouring countries to warn ANC operatives and others of an imminent attack by South African forces.

Although pamphlets urging locals not to interfere with the raid were scattered around target areas in Zimbabwe and Botswana — but not apparently in Zambia, where ANC installations near Lusaka were bombed from the air — no warnings were issued ahead of any of the attacks.

This was said by Mr Louis Nel, Deputy Minister of Information, who not only rejected reports of early warnings but scathingly accused Zimbabwean intelligence of trying to save face.

He was commenting on reports from Harare that agents of the Zimbabwean Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) had warned ANC members to move from their homes two hours before the SADF attacked ANC offices and an ANC safe house in Harare.

As a result, the Zimbabwean public had been led to believe that either the CIO had infiltrated South Africa's intelligence service, or news of the raid had been leaked to them by South Africa as a means of minimising casualties.

Both theories were discounted by Mr Nel, who went on to say that in the case of the Harare attack, the Zimbabwean government was trying to create the impression that its intelligence service was highly active and effective.

"According to our information," said Mr Nel, "I can give the assurance that this is not the case: Zimbabwe's intelligence force is in fact simply just not good enough."

Nobody had been tipped off prior to any of the attacks, although — and specifically in the case of the Botswana raid — pamphlets were distributed while the raids were in progress.

Two pamphlets — one addressed to the people of Botswana, assuring them that the raid was aimed not at them but at "ANC gangsters", and one to the Botswana Defence Force, urging it to keep out of the fight, were scattered around the settlement while the raid was on.

In the Harare raid, a message assured the "people of Zimbabwe" that South Africa regarded them as friends and neighbours but that their government had allowed ANC gangsters, who occupied their country, to terrorise innocent people in South Africa.

Trade Mission in Zimbabwe Continues

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 10

[Article by Robin Drew]

[Text]

HARARE — Only four blocks away from the wrecked offices of the ANC in Harare's Angwa Street, blasted by a South African raiding party early on Monday, the South African flag still flies over the building housing Pretoria's trade mission to Zimbabwe.

It is a graphic illustration of the embrace in which the two countries are locked through transport and trade links built up over the years.

Security at the building has been tightened. But inside it is business as usual. For the Trade Representative, Mr Johan Viljoen and his staff.

Diplomatic relations were severed by Mr Mugabe soon after Zimbabwe became independent in 1980. But both countries agreed to allow trade missions to continue to operate in each other's territory.

Pretoria's mission here also processes visa applications and passport matters.

Mr Viljoen confirmed there had been a normal flow of traffic this week and on Friday morning the office dealing with visa applications for people going to South Africa on business or on holiday was crammed with people.

The trade mission has had no direct communication from the Zimbabwe Government over the violation of its territory by South African soldiers.

After an interruption on Monday, the day of the raid, South African Airways flights resumed and rumours of a closure of airspace to South African planes, and even the border itself, proved to be false. Mr Mugabe told newsmen on the day of the raid that Zimbabwe would continue to try to divert its traffic away from South African ports and to reduce trade with South Africa.

But he gave no hint of any retaliatory action itself.

When relations between Harare and Pretoria were strained last December after accusations by South Africa that ANC guerrillas who planted landmines in the northern Transvaal had crossed from Zimbabwe, liaison mechanism between the two security forces was strengthened in an effort to reduce the risk of confrontation.

Zimbabwe denied that it allowed its territory to be used as a springboard and accused South Africa of planning to invade it.

However a high-level security meeting led to an easing of tension.

Zimbabwe's national news agency, Ziana, said that "for the moment" discussions at military level with the South Africans have been ruled out.

It said the fragile military truce had been "ruptured but not shattered", though there

was deepening suspicion about Pretoria's real intentions.

Informed circles here believe that once the dust has settled on South Africa's first officially-admitted incursion into Zimbabwe, fresh attempts will be made to re-establish liaison between the security organs of both countries.

Timed to Warn ANC

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 10

[Article by David Breier]

[Text]

THE South African raids into Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana this week were timed to warn the African National Congress against its plan to build up violence in South Africa over the next few weeks culminating on June 16.

This explanation was given this week by Mr Craig Williamson who has intimate knowledge of the security situation. Formerly Major Williamson, the security police "super spy" who infiltrated the ANC, he left the police this year to become a political risk consultant.

Mr Williamson said this was the explanation for the raids in view of the four targets selected by the security forces — two in Harare, one near Lusaka and one near Gaborone.

The simultaneous raids took place less than a month before June 16 which will be the 10th anniversary of the Soweto uprising and which the ANC plans to mark as part of its year of the armed struggle.

Mr Williamson said security forces were aware that Harare was being used by the ANC as the base for planning its June 16 campaign. He said planning was done at the offices in Angwa Street and the house in Eve's Crescent was used as a residence for this purpose.

He said the Botswana target outside Gaborone was also known as an integral part of the June 16 operation.

Mr Williamson said the South African strategy had been to tip off the Zimbabweans before the raid so that the ANC could evacuate the house on Eve's Crescent in time. This was because the South Africans did not want casualties.

They wanted a "bloodless operation" which would merely serve as a warning that they could hit back effectively if there were any atrocities in South Africa.

Mr Williamson said this strategy was underscored by the air raid on the Makeni Plots outside Lusaka.

He said this site was used as the ANC intelligence co-ordination centre. It was, however, sparsely populated and the South Africans knew there would not be many casualties, he said.

But the attack was a clear warning that the South Africans could easily attack any of the ANC's more crowded farms which were in similar striking distance for SA Air Force jets.

If, for example, a car bomb goes off at a shopping centre in South Africa, the South African security forces have shown they will be able to inflict heavy casualties on the ANC if they want to.

Mr Williamson said the three fatalities of the operation — all non-ANC in Zambia and Botswana — had not been deliberate but this was always a risk in this type of operation.

Mr Williamson said the South Africans had hoped that a bloodless raid acting as a warning signal to the ANC against its June 16 plan, would not elicit major international reaction. It had hoped the strategic gains would outweigh the political losses.

But international reaction was always an imponderable and the South Africans had been taken aback at the intensity of international reaction.

The raid had not been planned with the presence of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group in mind.

ANC spokesman, Mr Tom Sebina, told the Sunday Star from Lu-

saka that the two targets in Harare were ANC premises, but he denied that the targets in Zambia and Botswana were linked to the ANC.

He said no ANC members had been killed or injured in the raids.

Asked whether the ANC had in fact been tipped off before the raids, he said that in Harare, the SA Defence Force had dropped off leaflets directed at Zimbabweans, warning them of the impending raid. This had come to the attention of the ANC who managed to vacate their house in time.

Asked what effect the raids would have on the ANC's June 16 campaign, he said: "I don't think it will scare our people into inactivity. Our people will observe June 16 as vigorously as possible. This will spur them on and encourage them to continue the struggle".

Reserve Bank Effort to Boost Forex Confidence

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 25 May 86 p 10

[Article by John Spira]

[Text]

THE confidence nosedive that followed South Africa's cross-border raids forced the Reserve Bank to pour an estimated R150-million into the foreign exchange market in the past week to prevent the rand crashing.

In the process, the country has had to yield up large amounts of precious US dollars — a currency that has grown all the more precious in the wake of figures which suggest that South Africa's favourable trade balance is taking a turn for the worse.

Although Pretoria has been criticised for its massive support operation on the rand, the move clearly stemmed from the fear that such a development would impart another upward twist to South Africa's inflation rate.

Imported inflation as a result of the steep depreciation of the rand has been widely acknowledged as one of the major factors behind an inflation which soared above 20 percent this year.

At the same time, the monetary authorities find themselves on the horns of a dilemma: by holding up the exchange rate they are encouraging imports and discouraging exports.

The adverse impact of this policy is already being seen. In the first quarter of 1986, the surplus on the current account of the balance of payments dipped from R12-billion annualised to R2-billion annualised.

Coupled with the recent heavy outflow of capital earmarked for repayment of foreign loans, the current account deterioration is sapping the country's foreign exchange reserves. To make matters worse, the current account is expected to deteriorate further.

As a leading stockbroker told The Sunday Star yesterday: "The inflow of funds on the current account relates to export orders signed when the rand was below US40c. Export orders tailed off when the rand went above US40c and our exports became less competitive in world markets."

"Because of the time lapse between the signing of export orders and the payment received, we have yet to witness the full detrimental effects of the decline in exports on the current account of the balance of payments."

Against this conflicting background, the Government is grappling with a flagging economy that fails to respond to the stimulus of lower interest rates.

The official stance is that the economy will grow by three percent in 1986. However, as things stand at present, it would be surprising if the economy achieved any growth at all this year.

Addressing shareholders in Johannesburg this week, Lifegro's chairman, Dr M D Marais, said: "We will again have negative growth in 1986."

He drew attention to the need for "drastic action" on the economy, without which South Africa would suffer even more severely from "grave unemployment and lower company profits".

/12379

CSO: 3400/1868

SOUTH AFRICA

SEGREGATED EDUCATION BLAMED FOR NATION'S ILLS

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 27 May 86 p 9

[Article by Thelma Tuch]

[Text] Several top educationists blame segregation for the present crisis in schools and stress the need for multi-cultural education.

THE present disaster situation in SA is a direct result of educational apartheid and not solely due to the socio-economic and political system, says Jacques Kriel, of Wits University's Department of Medical Education.

Kriel, previously rector of the University of Bophuthatswana, was addressing a Press conference on multi-cultural education at the Barclays Bank training centre in Sandton.

He referred to enforced school apartheid as a "recipe for disaster" and said a just society was impossible with-

Enforced school apartheid 'a recipe for disaster'.

out integration in the educational system.

Clive Smith, acting principal of Mmabatho High — a non-racial state school in Bophuthatswana which caters for children of 20 different language groups and has achieved a high academic standard — said multi-cultural education did not imply the lowering of academic standards.

For three years, more than 90% of his school's matric pupils passed, with 67% of them receiving matric exemptions.

This year, pupils from Mmabatho High scored among the top 3% of those who wrote the Science Olympiad in SA and Bophuthatswana.

Two thousand pupils were turned away this year because of lack of space.

Martin Malcahy, principal of Mmabatho High, now on sabbatical to study multi-cultural education at the University of Cape Town, said apartheid education had been an enormous and costly failure.

"Most of us have grown up with entrenched ignorance, fear, envy and an inability to relate normally with the majority of our fellow South Africans," he said.

It was the State's responsibility to equalise educational provision by opening schools to all groups so as to prepare children for an active role in a democratic SA.

He said pupils at Mmabatho High were made aware of the subjectivity of their own history, art and culture, given the right to express their own culture and at the same time learned to recognise the right of others to do likewise.

Brother Neil McGurk, principal of Sacred Heart College, said the black schools boycott was more a reaction to enforced segregated education, and the lack of legitimacy in the political system, than the disparity of technical

equality between black and white schools.

Government's promise to provide technical equality within 10 years between black and white education did not address the fundamental issue, he said.

The problems in black education were affecting white schools, which were now witnessing the paranoia of bomb drills and early morning classroom searches, he said.

Public schools, he said, were becoming "sociological backwaters", as they failed to respond creatively to the real tensions facing SA.

Public schools becoming 'sociological backwaters'.

Speaking on the options of separatism, Rabbi NM Bernard said there were legitimate and illegitimate types of separatism. In his opinion, it was religion — not colour — which constituted a ground for separate schools.

Peter Nixon, of Woodmead School, introduced the speakers.

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CSO: 3400/1861

SOUTH AFRICA

COSATU'S NAIDOO PRAISES NEW UNION

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 28 May 86 p 3

[Article by Mike Siluma]

[Text]

A new, 26 000-strong, union — the Transport and General Workers Union — has been formed. It encompasses two Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) unions — the Transport and General Workers' Union and the General Workers' Union.

The move, part of a Cosatu programme to form industrially based unions in every major sector of the economy, came after months of negotiations between the two unions.

NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

The new union concerns the transport, cleaning and security, and building industries.

Negotiations will continue with other unions organising in the same sub-sectors.

Addressing the inaugural congress in Maritzburg, Cosatu general secretary Mr Jay Naidoo said the task facing the working class was to organise millions of workers and thousands in "bureaucratic unions".

The organisation had to address itself to workers in such sectors as agriculture, construction and to the unemployed.

Mr Naidoo stressed the importance of accountability and democracy in the struggle. Shop stewards, he said, were the foundations of worker power.

STRATEGIC

Because of transport workers' strategic importance, their organisation was vital in transforming South African society.

Mr Naidoo said the Government was "directionless" — "The only way it can hang on to power is by escalating the violence against the people."

Workers wanted a society which guaranteed jobs, proper housing, free medical care for all and a Government elected by the majority of the people.

●Mr Jerry Ntombela, Cosatu's Natal regional chairman, was elected president; Miss Jane Barrett general secretary.

/12379

CSO: 3400/1862

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

JOHANNESBURG APARTHEID THRIVING--Apartheid is still flourishing in Johannesburg. The country's "most progressive metropolis" has: Segregated municipal facilities--including some toilets; no bus stops for blacks in the city centre; a Central Business District "closed" residentially to blacks; City Council recreation centres cater for whites only. "Other" races are allowed only with special permission from the chairman of the management committee, Mr Francois Oberholzer. Only the Braamfontein and the Jabula centres are open to all; bowling greens are for whites only; swimming pools are for whites only (mixed galas are permitted); bus services are segregated, using different routes and termini. An attempt by Progressive Federal Party councillor, Mr Geoff Stark, to have all amenities opened was defeated in the Johannesburg City Council this week. Now he intends taking the matter to the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Willem Cruywagen. [By Shirley Woodgate] [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 29 May 86 p 1] /12379

TUCSA LOSES TEXTILE UNION--CAPE TOWN--The 19 000-member Textile Workers' Industrial Union is to leave the Trade Union Council of South Africa (Tucsa). The decision was taken at a national executive meeting in Cape Town "in view of Tucsa's irrelevance in our members' fight against apartheid", said a union spokesman. The union reiterated its stand against political affiliations but felt that matters affecting members' lives could not be ignored when political decisions and actions directly affected the economy. It also called for the withdrawal of security forces from townships.--Sapa. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 29 May 86 p 8] /12379

CSO: 3400/1862

SOUTH AFRICA

STEELPOORT FARMS CUTTING BACK ON BLACK LABORERS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 May 86 p 17

[Article by Hannes de Wet]

[Text] White farmers in the Steelpoort valley on the Lebowa border are drastically reducing the number of workers on their farms to become less dependant on black labour after large-scale stayaways by labourers.

Mr Stoffel Muller, the first farmer to suffer damages because of a petrol-bomb attack, said he was going to reduce his workforce from 60 to six.

"I have already invested in machinery and made other arrangements to switch from farming peanuts and corn to cattle," he said.

"I am not going to be dependant on black labour any longer."

Mr Muller said it was true that black workers were being intimidated not to come to work "but I believe people who don't want to be intimidated will not bow before pressure".

Mrs Suzy van der Berg said her hus-

band had decided to stop farming cotton in order not to be dependant on manual labour.

"We are going to switch to different kind of farming which will enable us to do most of the work with machinery."

She said the farm's cotton-pickers were now demanding two cents per kg more for picking cotton. The current rate is 8c/kg.

NO COMPLAINTS

"We are not going to pay them more because we know the extra two cents will just be going to the pockets of the 'comrades'."

"Our own workers told us that."

Mrs van der Berg also rejected assertions that the stayaways at Steelpoort were due to a wage dispute.

"Intimidation by the 'comrades' is behind this. Our workers never complained before and do not want to stay away."

"In any event, I know of other spots in the country where black workers are being paid much less than in Steelpoort," Mrs van der Berg said.

/12828

CSO: 3400/1850

SOUTH AFRICA

OUTLOOK FOR CONSUMER SPENDING 'BLEAK'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 29 May 86 p 22

[Article by Madden Cole]

[Text]

THE outlook for growth in consumption expenditure this year is bleak although better than in 1985, says the Bureau for Economic Research (BER) at Stellenbosch University.

BER adds that growth in real consumption expenditure is expected to decline in all categories except non-durables, but it feels that the magnitude of the decreases will be less severe since recent economic policy has been geared toward reviving consumer spending.

High levels of inflation, direct taxes and GST, combined with the effect of increased unemployment and lower real levels of remuneration, place severe constraints on consumers' ability to spend.

The Bureau points out, however, that although decreases in remuneration and lower levels of employment in the labour market will have an impact on future expected income, interest rates, expected inflation, the availability of credit and consumer confidence are more likely to affect the

consumption of big ticket items this year.

Interest rates which began falling in the second half of 1985 are expected to fall still farther. And the cut in cash reserve requirements of the banks together with the poor demand for credit indicates that there is no shortage in availability of funds, says BER.

It points out, too, that with inflation currently at 18,9 percent and projected to average 17,5 percent for the year, real interest rates do not look at all attractive to savers. As a result the decline in savings is expected to continue.

So BER feels that consumers will be encouraged to borrow in 1986 with plenty of funds available at low real interest rates and perhaps less stringent hire-purchase requirements into the bargain.

Much will depend, though, on the level of confidence expressed by the consumer which the Bureau feels has im-

proved remarkably in the last quarter, although factors such as social unrest and terrorism which were thought to have caused the lack of confidence, are still prevalent.

In its business survey results BER shows that there was an unexpected increase in the volume of sales experienced by wholesalers as a result of increased buying of consumer goods.

It expects the upturn in the fourth quarter of last year which was sustained during the first quarter of 1986 could improve in the second quarter.

However, BER explains that the net increase in sales and orders placed is from very low levels, and that on average, wholesalers reported a net decrease in numbers of people employed compared with the same quarter last year.

In the retail trade, volume of sales increased and for the first time since fourth-quarter 1984, the index recorded a greater value than 100.

SOUTH AFRICA

TOURS TO COUNTER NATION'S NEGATIVE IMAGE STARTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 May 86 p 11

[Article by Cheetah Haysom]

[Text] NEW YORK - In an effort to counteract South Africa's negative image in the United States, a Texas-based company is selling "fact-finding" tours of South Africa to American business people. The "leisure and learning" package promises to unveil "South Africa - beautiful land, political enigma" to concerned Americans. "Come see for yourself and form your own opinions," says the brochure printed by the S A Tourism Board. The company, Solrep International, claims to have been running tours to South Africa for the last three years.

SIX RESPONSES

Mr Rory Johnston, a South African, said brochures had been mailed to Americans interested in doing business in South Africa. The company claims about six responses a day. "We won't know if the six trips scheduled will go ahead until we have firm bookings."

The brochure offers the chance to talk freely with all racial groups. Americans will be able to "ask tough questions without embarrassment".

SEMINAAR

The itinerary's fact-finding highlight consists of a seminar at which "prominent South Africans" will talk about their perceptions of South Africa and reforms. Business travellers will also be introduced to Government officials "for a comprehensive briefing". The first tour, arranged with South African Airways, is scheduled for September 19. The tour includes a trip down a gold mine, the Voortrekker Monument, the Union Buildings in Pretoria and the "colourful Malay quarter" in Cape Town. Mr Johnstone denied that the private venture is Government funded. Solrep, in fine print, disclaims any liability for injury resulting from "political unrest, insurrection, riot and any or all acts of terrorism".

/12828
CSO: 3400/1852

SOUTH AFRICA

GENERAL MOTORS SPELLS OUT COMMITMENT TO REMAIN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 May 86 p 14

[Article by Andrew Thomson]

[Text]

GENERAL Motors says it is at a loss as to what it can do or say to convince the Press and the public that it intends to remain in South Africa.

The managing director of General Motors SA, Mr Bob White, said Press speculation about a possible withdrawal of the company continued unabated despite all evidence to the contrary, and sales were being affected. Mr White and marketing director Mr Hal Carpenter hosted a news conference in Sandton yesterday.

Mr Carpenter said the company intended to enter into new five-year agreements with its 200 dealers at the end of the year. Mr White disclosed that the company had

spent R35 million on developing the medium-priced Monza sedan, which would be marketed in November, and had spent between R10 and R15 million on updating the Commodore and Rekord series.

He said that not only was General Motors committed to remaining in South Africa, it was also committed to Port Elizabeth, where the company had its manufacturing plant.

He cited the involvement of General Motors in the corporate council appointed by President Reagan as further proof of the company's commitment to South Africa.

The president of General Motors, Mr Roger Smith, was one of a number of corporate businessmen despatched to South Africa by President Rea-

gan to appraise the local situation. Mr White said he returned to the United States far more optimistic about the region's future than when he had arrived.

Mr White predicted substantial new American investment in South Africa at some stage in the future when political stability returned.

He said General Motors SA was still seeking a South African partner because the company would value the fleet sales resulting from a partnership with a large conglomeration. It would also value the additional access to the country's financial markets that a South African partner would enable.

Recently General Motors was forced to cease sales to the South African Police and Military because of a congressional

ruling. Mr White said sales would be resumed the moment American law allowed it. In the meantime, the company was considering the viability of producing vehicles with no American content for sale to the police and military.

General Motors has stopped sales of its products to the South African Defence Force and Police but sales to other departments of the SA Government are not affected, the car manufacturer said in a statement today.

"General Motors has explained its situation to the South African Government departments concerned, who understand the position of US companies. Sales to other departments of the South African Government are not affected."

/12379
CSO: 3400/1863

SOUTH AFRICA

SPECULATORS HESITANT ON PALLADIUM

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 23 May 86 p 16

[Article by Sven Lünsche]

[Text]

While South Africa took advantage of a drop in palladium supplies from the USSR, the gloom in the market caused the price of the platinum group metal to decline to a three-year low in 1985.

Demand for palladium declined by almost 7,5 percent to 2 740 000 oz and contrary to platinum, which is in huge demand as a result of the surge in the autocatalyst industry, shed most of its 1984 increases in the process.

According to Johnson Matthey's publication, *Platinum 1986*, palladium was traded down to \$90 in December 1985 compared with \$139 a year earlier. Speculators were unenthusiastic throughout 1985, as witnessed by a drop of 16 percent in the volume of palladium futures traded on the New York Metal Exchange.

Demand is conditioned to a large extent by technological developments in dentistry and certain electronic components and as the year turned, a few long-awaited signs of recovery in these sectors began to appear. As a result the palladium price touched \$110 in mid-January 1986, aided also in part by the strength in platinum.

As the demand from both the electronics and the dentistry sector continued to recover throughout 1986, the price was maintained around these levels and is currently trading at \$108.

The improvements early this year was also helped by the news that the USSR was changing its selling methods for 1986 and had abandoned its monthly option or 'frame' price arrangements. During 1985 the Soviet traders frequently pitched their option prices well above market levels, so much so at times as to be almost academic.

Nonetheless, in their three-year history Soviet option prices have generally had the effect of putting a ceiling on the market, although in the poor fundamental conditions of 1985 it is questionable whether the market would have been capable of rising much, option or no option.

In 1986 the USSR intention is to sell palladium above normal contract quantities only to merchants holding such contracts and at market-related prices, but Johnson Matthey does not expect a great deal of change in prices, as the Soviets are likely to regulate the flow of the metal for its own purposes.

Palladium shipments from South Africa in 1985 rose by about 33 000 oz (four percent) compared with 1984, reaching a record 1 010 000 oz. More pgm ore is now being extracted from the UG2 reef, where, on average, platinum and palladium are found in closer balance than in the Merensky reef, although pgm distribution is not uniform throughout.

More palladium could therefore become available for sale if the producers were to take a higher proportion of ore from UG2. The effect would be very gradual, but was probably not noticeable in 1985.

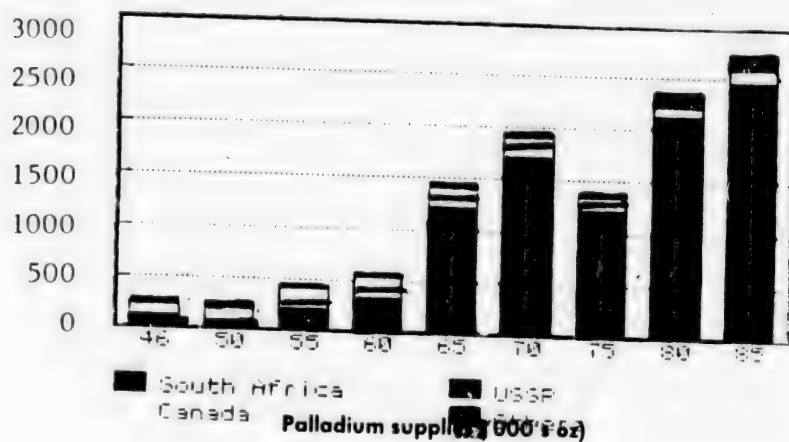
Supplies from the USSR dropped to 1 440 000, 15 percent below the 1984 figures and the review expects Soviet traders to keep out of the spot market unless the price is right for them, as annual contract quantities are also believed to be lower this year.

It remains likely that reduced Soviet sales have less to do with a possible need to conserve palladium for the home market than with the poor returns that were available for much of 1985.

/12379

CSO: 3400/1864

Palladium supply (000's oz)



SOUTH AFRICA

BOKSBERG'S ERPM OPENING UP NEW HIGH-GRADE ORE RESERVES

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR (Finance) in English 25 May 86 p 8

[Article by John Orpen]

[Text]

AT THE age of 93, East Rand Proprietary Mines — better known simply as ERPM — is the oldest gold-producer in South Africa still in operation.

Yet, astoundingly, it is now busy with a massive R300-million shaft-sinking and extension programme. And this is taking place right next door to a new property development — Sunward Park, one of Boksburg's latest suburbs.

The Far East Vertical Shaft system — or, at least, what will now become the men-and-materials shaft and the original sub-vertical shaft associated with it — was originally sunk in the late 1950s but never used.

The new project involves the expansion and deepening of the existing vertical and sub-vertical shaft together with the sinking of a new 6m-diameter vertical ventilation shaft.

This work is being carried out by Gold Fields Cementation under contract to ERPM's proprietor, Rand Mines.

Other aspects of the programme include an extension of the gold plant and the building of a new hostel 2 km from the shaft system to accommodate the additional 7 000 workers that the operation of the new shaft system will demand.

There is also the possibility that a tertiary shaft system will be sunk in the future though this does not form part of current planning.

The Far East Vertical will give access to additional ore reserves in a high-grade area in the south-east section of the mine. Grade should be around 5 g/t, which is quite a bit up on the grade of 3,64 g/t averaged by ERPM in the last financial year.

The FEVS, as it is commonly called, will enable milling capacity to be pushed from the current 2,8 million tons a year to 3,8 million tons a year by 1990. The system should be commissioned by 1989.

It is worth noting, incidentally, that ERPM has already milled something like 170 million tons in the course of its life.

Gold production should rise as a result of the increased throughput from about 11 tons a year to more than 18 tons a year. So the mine's foreign-exchange earnings should soar from around R197 million in the coming year to about R1,5 billion in 1999. Put another way, the FEVS gives ERPM the potential to produce 850 tons of gold over the next 50 years.

That will mean R15 billion in foreign-exchange earnings at the present gold price, not to mention other benefits both to ERPM's hometown of Boksburg and the country of higher taxes, employment, salaries and expenditure on power, stores and materials.

Interestingly, the whole FEVS project nearly came to grief be-

cause the Nationalist MP for Boksburg, Mr Sakkie Blanche, decided that keeping the races apart was more important than any amount of foreign-exchange earnings. He tried to prevent Rand Mines from putting up a hostel near the FEVS complex, insisting that the black workers should be housed at Vosloorus, 20 km away.

This would have rendered the entire scheme unprofitable and impractical. Only intervention at Cabinet level saved the day.

Ore from the new shaft system will be trammed across to another

ERPM shaft a few kilometres away. This should obviate the danger of too much noise drifting over to the suburb of Sunward Park.

Although the whole FEVS complex is practically a new mine, the fact that ERPM has such an established infrastructure and that a lot of the initial shaft-sinking was done years ago has helped to keep the cost of the project within bounds — at least compared to some of the other shaft-sinking projects now coming to fruition around the country.

/12379

CSO: 3400/1863

SOUTH AFRICA

NEW GIANT MINING EXPLORATION COMPANY FORMED

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR (Finance) in English 25 May 86 pp 1,5

[Article by John Spira]

[Text] A MAJOR new mining exploration company with potential mineral rights covering a mammoth 165 000 hectares has been formed.

The company, Consolidated Resources Exploration, was recently registered by mining magnate Joe Berardo's Johannesburg Mining group.

FINANCE learned of the registration following perusal of government company records and Mr Berardo confirms that the purpose of the new company is mining exploration on a widespread scale.

Although unwilling to be drawn on the detail of the proposed operation "at this early stage", Mr Berardo indicates that the mineral rights to be exploited by Consolidated Resources Exploration (CRE) would come largely from companies falling under the umbrella of his Johannesburg Mining group.

The JSE-listed companies in question are Waverley Gold Mines, Carrig Diamonds and Simmer & Jack Mines.

Company with the most mineral rights is Waverley, whose rights cover 76 farms 130 000 hectares in extent in the Transvaal, OFS and Cape Province.

Simmer has mineral rights over 1 993 hectares of land in the Germiston area, while Carrig has rights over some 33 000 hectares in the Cape and the Transvaal.

Unlisted Tanks Oil & Platinum Holdings has a "turning to account" participation agreement with Waverley whereby Tanks will receive 25 percent of any monies or rights accruing to Waverley from its mineral rights. Carrig has an 8,4 percent stake in Tanks.

Presumably, the three companies in question will sell their mineral rights to Consolidated Resources Exploration in exchange for shares in the new company. CRE will then be listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. It will derive its income from selling off areas proven to have viable reserves to one of the mining houses.

Mr Berardo says that should his group decide to proceed with the venture, CRE will do all the exploration work itself and not job the work out — as do most other mining exploration companies.

This statement seems to imply that the prospecting agreements granted by Waverley to outside companies (seven farms are currently subject to such agreements with Anglo American Prospecting Services, Foskor and Rand Extensions) will not be renewed when they expire.

CRE will, one assumes, first explore those of its potential mineral rights which have the most promise. Apart from the farms currently being prospected by outside companies, an area immediately to the north-east of the Stilfontein mine is an obvious target.

While gold, uranium and coal form the bulk of CRE's prospective mineral rights, they also include diamonds, attapulgit, gypsum, chrome, platinum, phosphates, talc, tremolite, kieselguhr, and diamonds.

/12379
CSO: 3400/1864

SOUTH AFRICA

NEW ANTHRACITE MINE OPENED IN KWAZULU

Johannesburg THE STAR (Business) in English 26 May 86 p 14

[Article by Stan Kennedy]

[Text] | Zululand Anthracite Colliery, completed at a cost of R86 million by Trans-Natal Coal Corporation, was officially opened on Friday by the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn.

Anthracite makes up only two percent of South Africa's reserves but it is in great demand overseas. Last year, the country exported 3,8 million tons or 8,5 percent of its total coal exports.

Total value of all anthracite sales was more than R315 million or six percent of the value of all coal sales. The mine started production in June last year and has an expected life of 22 years. Situated in the heart of KwaZulu, 48 km from Ulundi, it will produce 875 000 tons a year,

of which 700 000 will be exported to the United Kingdom, Europe and the Far East.

Anthracite is currently being produced from two shafts and provision has been made for more shafts in the next 10 years.

Water is supplied from the nearby Black Mfolozi river. Because it is frequently affected by drought during winter, water is pumped in the rainy season to a 320 000 cu m dam, ensuring that the mine has nine months' supply in the event of a dry winter.

To provide facilities to the mine, 15 km of roads were constructed and 45 km of power lines and 50 km of telephone lines were erected. A rail siding was also built.

/12828
CSO: 3400/1850

SOUTH AFRICA

SBDC TO BUY CITY FACTORY, OTHER LOCAL PROJECTS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 23 May 86 p 16

[Article by David Canning]

[Text] The Small Business Development Corporation is in the course of buying the vast unused former Leisure Corp factory building at Industria, Johannesburg, for around R4 million, according to its managing director, Dr Ben Vosloo.

He said yesterday that the 14 000sq m building was being earmarked for development as a huge industrial "hotel" which could accommodate up to 2 000 small entrepreneurs.

The building had been bought through a liquidation sale and loose ends were still being tied up. He said the site was ideal because of its proximity to a number of industrial and residential areas - and its location near the road to Soweto.

Speaking on a tour of SBDC facilities in the Durban area, Dr Vosloo said the idea of small business "incubators," as they are known in the United States, appeared to be working well in South Africa.

The SBDC was trying to alleviate the unemployment problem by providing facilities for the unemployed and others to start their own businesses. It provides industrial accommodation and equipment for hire on a daily basis and plans to give back-up in financing, marketing, secretarial and other services.

He said the SBDC still was "feeling its way" but appeared to be meeting a real need at present.

The first such facility, opened in Port Elizabeth, is now moving to larger premises.

The 1 170sq m industrial building occupied recently at Phoenix near Durban has many more applicants than it has space to accommodate. Entrepreneurs hire space daily (at a charge of R5) and the project has given employment to 86 people.

Entrepreneurs in the motor, metal and allied trades, wood-

workers, garment manufacturers and others are catered for in premises at Phoenix, Chatsworth, Maritzburg and elsewhere.

The SBDC tour also took in a number of other local projects including Chatsworth factory, flats (costing R1,7-m), Chatsworth Industrial Park (R690 000), Austerville Industrial Park (R477 000), Austerville factory complex (R1-m) and Kwa Makuta Make 'n Sell Centre (R234 000).

Natal general manager Tony Kedzierski says the SBDC has managed to bypass red tape in a number of areas and now the Natal Provincial authorities have granted it a major licensing concession. At its discretion it can arrange for tenants to operate without the usual licences.

A number of entrepreneurs established there already have their sights on moving to larger and more permanent premises.

/12379
CSO: 3400/1864

24 June 1986

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

WHITE SHOPS FEEL BITE--A black consumer boycott at Steelpoort in the North-Eastern Transvaal is threatening to close down some white shops. The village has been the scene of petrol bombings and intimidation since February. "I cannot even pay my telephone and electricity bills any longer. If this boycott lasts much longer, I will have no choice but to close down," said shopowner Mr Paul Malan. His shop is within walking distance of the border between Sekhukhuneland, in Lebowa, and Steelpoort. He told THE STAR that all white shops in the vicinity had been hit. "The blacks are allowed to buy only from the local Indian shop. They are being threatened by 'comrades' that they will have to swallow everything they buy from a white shop." Mr Malan has become so exasperated that a few days ago he shot at two comrades sitting near the entrance to his shop. "They were watching black consumers and keeping them away. If they come near my shop again, I will not hesitate to shoot again." [Text][Johannesburg THE STAR in English 26 May 86 p 3]/12828

PAY RISE FOR MINERS AGREED--A 14 percent pay increase for 24 000 gold mine and colliery workers has been agreed between the Chamber of Mines and the Council of Mining Unions. In a joint statement yesterday, the Chamber and the Council of Mining Unions said that in addition to the 14 percent increase in standard rate of pay, 50 percent of bonus and contract earnings would now become pensionable. The new deal goes into effect next month. Mr Arrie Paulus, general secretary of the Mineworkers Union and chairman of the Council of Mining Unions said the agreement had been reached after hard bargaining with the Chamber, which ended yesterday. Earlier this month union officials had threatened to hold a strike ballot and said a strike would create chaos in the mining industry. But last week the ballot was called off after a new wage offer was made by the Chamber in an attempt to break the deadlock. At that time there was a small margin between the union's demand of 15,1 percent across the board and the chamber's offer of 14,6 percent with no fringe benefits. The final agreement apparently hinged on the new fringe benefits which union officials said made the total package 15,1 percent. There will now be an increase in the period of paid mine accident leave, to which all union members are entitled, from 42 days a year to 56. The total that can be accumulated will increase from 84 days to 112 days over a two-year period. The National Union of Mineworkers has also tabled demands on wages and conditions of employment for the Black workers it represents on the Chamber's gold mines. "In the case of Iscor's Hlobane and Durban Navigation collieries the wage increase will be 13,5 percent and 75 percent of bonus and contract earnings will be pensionable," the statement added. [By Dick Epstein and Sapa] [Text][Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 29 May 86 p 1] /12379

NEW FACTORY FOR REINFORCING STEEL--A NEW R1,5 million factory for the cutting and bending of reinforcing steel has come on stream at Ekandustria on the Far East Rand. The new company is Cocker Reinforcing and has been established by Bob Cocker, a well-known figure in the reinforcing industry and the GTA Group of construction companies. The initial capacity of the new plant is 400 tons a month but this can be easily doubled according to the demand placed upon it. Mr Cocker, who is managing director of the new operation is confident of the future of the industry. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 28 May 86 p 25] /12379

OIL SEARCH OFF CAPE--The oil search off the South African coast will be expanded to the West Cape coast later this year, the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, said in Cape Town yesterday. Mr Steyn was the guest speaker during a ceremony in Table Bay harbour yesterday during which Mrs Hermanus Steyn renamed an anchor-handling supply tug, the Pentow Skua. A third oil rig had arrived off Mossel Bay and this would speed up demarcating the gas fields on the Agulhas Bank. Mr Steyn said that it was the intention of the Government and Soekor that more South African expertise be used in servicing the rigs in the search for oil, and he hoped this expertise would be used fully in exploiting the Mossel Bay gas field. The Pentow Skua starts a three-year contract to Soekor next month. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 21 May 86 p 12]/12828

MORE CBDs OPENED--The Central Business Districts of Delmas in Transvaal, King William's Town in the Cape and Colenso in Natal will be proclaimed free trading areas by notice in the Government Gazette today. Earlier this month, Potchefstroom Witbank and Ottery (Cape) had their Central Business Districts declared open. The announcement was made yesterday by Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning. He said that in these open CBDs, members of all population groups could freely obtain occupation and ownership rights of premises in the proclaimed areas. The only limitation is that these premises must be used for business, commercial, profession or religious and education purposes in terms of the existing town planning schemes of the areas concerned. [Text][Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 23 May 86 p 13]/12828

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